App.F.IX-4

84-26

1926-7

File No. 84/6

Previous References (CB 7

Serial Nos. 1 to 3

Printed.

Later references.

Legis dept no 68-26.
Legis 39-26, 1-3.
CB 120-30-142
CB · 47-38-1

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

LRDept 6739
CB. 156-40-6

Serial Nos. 1 to 3

Part B for Oct 1926

SUBJECT

Question of entrusting the Director of Industries & Commerce certain duties in connection with Labour

---

To The Heads of Departments
" Deputy Comms. of Districts
" Secretaries to Govt.
No 1267-1317/C.B. dy 11/10/26

Assigns to the Dept. of Industries & Commerce the duties of dealing with problems connected with Labour & the Inspections of Factories.

To The Heads of Departments
" Deputy Comms. of Dists
" Secretaries to Govt.
No 1318-68/C.B. dy 11/10/26

Possessors in regard to the Amelioration of the Labour Communities & assigns to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies certain functions in this respect.

(For Disposal at the next Meeting)

No. C. 134

of 1926-27.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Council Matter.

SUBJECT

(clause xxvii of the schedule)

Question of entrusting the Director of Industries and Commerce, certain duties in connection with labour.

CIRCULATED TO THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

By Order,

Chief Secretary to Government.

29th September 1926.

35-73
29/9.

First Member of Council. 29/9. Opinion tendered by the Member

Second Member of Council. (Seen by the Member.)

Jm 1293

Memo 148

Office of the Dewan of Mysore.

NOTE.

Dated 11th August *192*6.

The Dewan desires that full particulars about the work done by the Labour Commissioners in the Indian British Provinces may kindly be obtained with a view to see whether the Director of Industries in Mysore may not be entrusted with similar functions, especially with regard to factory labour.

1) A note may kindly be put up on the subject for the Dewan's consideration.

By Order,

Private Secretary to the Dewan.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
with compliments.

U.O

4) Extracts from Chickay 14.8.26.

3) Copies of a draft Memorandum 8 10/8/26

5) Draft memo 10/8 Chickay.

6) Issue today 18/8 18/8

Issued 18/8/1926 18.8.1926

7) No reply has been received from the Residency. May the receipt of the reply be awaited for action as ordered -- Subd.

8) Yes. I have been quite right all along. Now move up re memo to the Govt. MSK 31/8

MSK 31/8/26

2118

WD 01264—GPB—40,000 -17-12-25

General and Revenue Secretariat

S.M. File No. of 192 .

Serial No

From

The Secretary to the Resident
Memo No 8109/74-1917 dated 18th Sept 1926.
Forwards a copy of letter from the Govt of Madras enclosing a copy of Govt order constituting the office of the Labour Commissioner & the administration reports relating thereto from 1922-23 to 1924-25.

9) Submitted with reference to paras 2 & 3 supra.

SM
...
19/9
mmc
21/9/26

10) Submitted with reference to the Dewan's Memo of 11th August. (Vide paragraph (1) above.)

11) The Residency were requested to obtain for reference a set of Government Orders of British Indian Provinces in which there is a Labour Department, regarding the constitution of the Department and the functions and powers of the Labour Commissioner, together with copies of the reports of the Department for the last two or three years. They have now sent a copy of an order of the Madras Government issued in February 1920 appointing a Labour Commissioner and the reports of the Labour Department of that Province for three years, 1922-25. It appears from the Government Order that

NOTE— Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

that the Department had its origin in the appointment of an officer on Special Duty in March 1919 for dealing with the measures necessary for improving the condition of the depressed classes. An enquiry which had been begun in 1916 into the condition of the depressed and backward classes including the aborigines was completed sometime after the appointment of the Special Officer and it was found that the duties of the Special Officer could not be confined to the depressed classes but that it was necessary to include in the scope of his duties all the depressed and backward classes i.e., labourers in general. Certain duties were therefore added to those which had been assigned to the Special Officer at the time of the appointment and he was called the Labour Commissioner and given certain staff for assisting him in his work. The duties of the Labour Commissioner were:-

(1) Study of the economic condition of the depressed classes; submission of proposals for improving it; dispensing assistance of Government to philanthropic bodies working for the improvement of the depressed classes; dealing with problems connected with their education and with the best means of raising their standard of living by providing them with house sites and wells, by encouraging co-operation amongst them and by improving their labour conditions.

(2) The general control and management of Criminal Settlements.

(3) Administration of the Factory Act and control of the Factory Inspectors; dealing with the questions

questions of hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation and other matters affecting the welfare of labourers.

(4) The conduct of the wages census together with the duty of keeping in touch with the wages question throughout the year.

(5) Emigration of labour both within and outside the Presidency (excepting in connection with the Port of Madras) together with all that takes place in connection with the recruitment of ~~the~~ labour; such as arrangements made in respect of depots, sub-depots and the like.

(6) Administration of the working of the Planters' Labour Act and the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act.

12) The Government of Madras mentioned in the order that it had been suggested by the Industries Commr: that the control of the administration of the Factories Act should be transferred to the Director of Industries but observed that the recommendation was doubtless made in the absence of any officer more directly concerned with labour questions. Where there is such an officer he should undertake it. The Director of Industries is connected with the development of the industries themselves rather than with the care of the labour which deals with them whereas an officer controlling various ~~his~~ labour interests such as the Labour Commissioner would be in a better position to deal with the general economic aspects of ~~the~~ labour questions.

13) From the reports of the Labour Department which have been received it appears that the Labour

Serial No.

Labour Commissioner visits the districts in the course of his work, inspects Criminal Tribes Settlements, Labour Depots etc. and studies measures for the education of labour and housing schemes for the depressed classes; attends conferences of Planters, submits a report on the administration of the Factories Act, deals with the Rules under the Act; deals with the labour disputes and strikes, the formation of Labour Unions and welfare work for labourers; examines records of Magistrates' Offices in regard to the working of the Planters' Labours Act and Workmen's Breach of Contract Act; organizes the quinquennial wages census and submits a report about it to Government; advises Government on important questions connected with the rules, terms and conditions to be prescribed under the Emigration Act, deals with the repatriates from South Africa making arrangements to despatch them to their places and finding temporary employments for a few persons who might wish for it; runs a labour and employment bureau, receives applications from persons returned from overseas or war-service and tries to find employment for them, sends lists of suitable persons to the Police and other Department, or in other capacities; for employment as constables acquires land for house sites for depressed classes, organizes co-operative Societies & schools, arranges for granting to the depressed classes through co-operative - - societies lands set apart for the purpose by the Board of Revenue; deals with the construction of drinking water wells and wells and making of path-ways for the benefit of these particular classes; deals with the improvement of sanitation in the localities where the depressed classes dwell and with cases in which

Serial No.

which labourers lose houses by fire and other accidents; has started our Adi-dravida hostel at Madras, gives scholarships to the boys of the depressed classes, makes grants to societies which maintain Day and Night Schools for them, examines the question of representation of the depresses classes in the Local Bodies and suggests to the Local Bodies the appointment of such representatives where necessary.

14) The Labour Commissioner of the Government of Madras is therefore not merely interested in questions of labour as suggested by the name but in the general amelioration of the classes of people from whom the labourers come. The part of his work dealing directly with labour is perhaps much less than that which pertains to the improvement of the conditions of life of the classes. There is now no officer in the State corresponding to this officer in the Madras Government. If the Director of Industries is to be entrusted with any part of the work it would ~~the would~~ perhaps be only that relating to the working of the Factory Regulation and to labour disputes. We have no large emigration from or to the State except in the Malnad and in the Kolar Gold Fields. Statistics regarding the wages are collected year by year and published in the Season and Crop Report. Both emigration statistics and wages statistics are (I believe) at present dealt with in the Revenue Department. Relief to the depressed classes in case of fire and flood seems to be administered in Madras by the Labour Commissioner. It is here administered by the Revenue authorities. Whether the work of developing education among the depressed classes, organizing co-operative societies for them, improving the sanitation

Serial No.

sanitation of the localities where they dwell, granting them house sites and lands set apart for them can be entrusted to the Director of Industries and Commerce is for consideration. The position in Madras in this respect seems to be somewhat different from what it is in Mysore. The area which each provincial department is to deal with there is too large to ensure adequate attention to the depressed classes. Hence it is necessary to concentrate all ~~the~~ aspects of the questions in one authority. Here it should be possible for each department to give quite adequate attention to the depressed classes as part of its ordinary work. In this view what might be done in the State is perhaps to assign the amelioration work of the Labour Commissioner to the various departments dealing with education, co-operation, sanitation, land grants, etc. and to give to the Director of Industries and Commerce the purely technical work that is attended to by the Labour Commissioner.

23/9

Ch Secy.

16) As the bulk of the labour employed in industrial concerns is derived from the depressed classes it is but natural that in the matter of considering the question of ameliorating the condition of these classes as a whole should be made to take precedence over the question of improving the condition of work & in factories.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Serial No.

There has been special rules for promoting the economic condition of the depressed classes and though it has since proposed that a special Officer should be appointed to organize special measures for their benefit throughout the State the idea has not been pursued. As we have other agencies for the improvement of the depressed classes the following duties may be assigned to the Director of Industries in connection with labour

(1) Administration of the Factory Act including such questions as inspection of factories, hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation and other matters affecting the welfare of labourers

(2) Wage census of labour in touch with the wages section. The Asst Deptl Officers same inspection. The Dir of Industries may at times inspect & see that correct statistics of wages are maintained

(3) Emigration of labour. This is likely to become a more and more important question in the future

(4) Study of the economic conditions of labour and formulation of

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

Ext 2393 (9

WD 01264—GPB—40,000—17-12-25—
App. F. III—2]

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. C 134 of 192

Serial No.

proposals in regard to their betterment

16) Any points to be considered at a meeting of Council

Ch
24/9/26
Secy
28/9

Secy Member
Dewan

17) Who is the authority now entrusted with the duties referred to under No (1) of the above list?

Mes
27.9.26

18) The Depressed Classes Schools in the Districts and the City Schools should be selected for 1st class Inspection

Secy Member

Ch
27/9
Secy
27/9

19) Seen. Thanks. Inspection may be commenced in Council of Dewan approves

Mes
27.9.26

20) Yes - as in past meetings.

Ch
28/9
Secy
28/9

Ch
28.9.26

1st Member

21) So far as Depressed Classes are concerned, I am afraid we are behind Madras, Bom. & Cochin. in certain respects. I think that if the question of

Ch
9/1

OFFICE OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
25 SEP. 1926
No. 2367

OFFICE OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
27 SEP. 1926
No. 2405

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
Received on
28. SEP. 1926
Reg. No. 2381

Secy for urgent
28/9.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

(10

WD 01229—GPB—37,500—1-9-26
App. F. III—2]

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. | of 192

Serial No.

labour is intimately connected with the question of the depressed classes. The file re appeal against them may also be put up for consideration

Lee
29/9
8/9/-

X 559 of 21-22 is linked.

22)

C 134. (11

Extract from the Proceedings of the.....783rd.....*Meeting of the Council of His Highness the Maharaja, held at Bangalore on the*.....30th September 1926.....*19*

23)

87. Subject: Clause Xii of the schedule.

Question of entrusting the Director of Industries and Commerce with certain duties in connection with labour.

24) Opinion of the Council.

25) The Director of Industries may be entrusted with the functions of a Commissioner of Labour in the State and as such attend to the duties enumerated in the Chief Secretary's note dated the 24th September 1926.

26) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies may in consultation with the Heads of the Departments concerned attend generally to the work of the improvement of the depressed classes such as agricultural settlements, grants of lands on a large scale, housing, sanitation, relief of indebtedness, improvement of their habits, social morals and customs etc.,

(signed) Mirza M. Ismail,
Dewan of Mysore.

"EXTRACT"

Chief Secretary to Government.

WD 1471—GPB—2,000—1-3-21

Submitted to His Highness.

1) In the course of my enquiry in connection with the disturbances in the Binny Mills, it came to my notice that there was no properly constituted central authority to keep Government informed in regard to the conditions of labour, to collect statistical and other information relating thereto, and I therefore asked the Chief Secretary to study what was done in other parts of India and to submit proposals to delegate the necessary functions concerning factory labour to the Director of Industries and Commerce.

2) The Presidency where a Labour Department has been specially organised and where special attention is paid to this work is the Madras Presidency. Though when a Special Officer was first appointed for the purpose, the intention was that he should help the Government in working out the measures necessary for improving the condition of the depressed classes, the functions of this officer have been gradually extended and he is now designated as Commissioner for Labour. The functions exercised by this officer in the Madras Presidency may be classified as follows:-

(i) Administration of the Factory Act and control of the Factory Inspectors, dealing with the questions of hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation and other matters affecting the welfare of labourers.

(2) The conduct of the wages census together with the duty of keeping in touch with the wages question throughout the year.

(3) Emigration of labour both within and outside the Presidency (excepting in connection with the Port of Madras) together with all that takes place in connection with the recruitment of labour; such as arrangements made in respect of depots, sub-depots and the like.

(4) The general control and management of criminal settlements.

(5) Study of the economic condition of the depressed classes, submission of proposals for improving it, dispensing assistance of Government & philanthrophic bodies working for the improvement of the

depressed classes, dealing with problems connected with their education and with the best means of raising their standard of living by providing them with house-sites and wells, by encouraging co-operation amongst them and by improving their labour conditions.

(6) Administration of the working of the Planters' Labour Act and the workmen's Breach of Contract Act.

3) In Mysore the functions of supervision under the Factory Regulation have been delegated to District Magistrates with the result that such inspections are confined more or less to a general enquiry whether the conditions prescribed by the Factories Regulation are complied with and the examination of the machinery and the conditions under which the labour is made to work is not carried out with sufficient technical knowledge.

4) There is likely to be considerable industrial expansion in future, and it is our duty as a progressive State to see that we do not fall behind the high standard insisted upon all civilized countries, in which there is considerable industrial development for the welfare and safety of labour.

5) As regards depressed classes, we are to a certain extent far ahead of other parts of India, in as much as we have set apart a considerable sum for the education of depressed classes, established special vocational institutes for them and given them special facilities through Co-operative Societie and other ways to improve their economic condition.

6) The First Member considers that this work will be greatly prompted if we could appoint a Special Officer for this purpose. The question of the appointment of a special officer was considered in the year 1922, and under His Highness's instructions the then Dewan was informed that there was no necessity for the creation of any such appointment and that it would be more economical and feasible to get the work done through the Departments concerned, viz., the Revenue, Education and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies (vide

Private Secretary's confidential D.O.No.72 dated 20th October 1922.) Since then a good deal of work has been done for the benefit of these classes through these departments, and what is now wanted is merely an agency to keep itself in touch with the economic side of the work and these duties may be assigned to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

7) The matter was considered in Council who have resolved that the Director of Industries and Commerce may be assigned the functions of a Commissioner of Labour. As such that officer will exercise the following functions:-

(i) Study of the economic conditions of labour and formulation of proposals in regard to their betterment.

(2) Wage census and keeping himself in touch with the wages question.

(3) Administration of the Factory Act including such questions as inspection of factories, hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation and other matters affecting the welfare of labour.

(4) Emigration of labour.

8) At present a part of these duties ~~are now~~ done by various departments and detailed instructions will be given as to how their functions should be mutually adjusted.

9) As regards the depressed classes, the existing system of making the Revenue, Education, Sanitary and the Development Departments also responsible for the special measures to be taken for the benefit of the depressed classes may be continued, but there is no objection to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies acting as a sort of co-ordinating officer in regard to the measures adopted for their economic improvement in consultation with the departments concerned such as housing, relief of indebtedness, improvement of their habits, social morals and customs, formation of agricultural colonies, land settlements, the starting of special co-operative societies for industrial and other

purposes etc.

(10) The Resolution of the Council may be graciously approved.

Bangalore,
3rd October 1926.

Mirza M. Ismail

Psk.

C 134

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Proposal to entrust the Director of Industries and Commerce with the functions concerning factory labour.

327

Order.

~~KRW~~

7/10/26

C Secy

JM

8.10.26

(Move order thereon early)

Move today
Secy Labour
Secretary 11/10

2665
10/10

Dr. Jones. 11/10
11/10 (Secy) 11/10.
Secretary
1st Secretary.

Secretary
Dr
9/10/26
Secy

Lee
11/10/26
11.10.26

U.S. calls
kind attention of
dept. clerk
Lee
11/10/26
S/.

Ch Secy

Dept. pertains. There is no copy of the Factory Rules & rules there. Kindly the portion relating to Repng. Corp. or societies appear in these rules for consideration

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. | of 19

Serial No.

G.O. no. 1767-1317/CB 84-96-2 dated 11th Oct 1996.

Assigns the duties of dealing with problems connected with the Condition of Labour and the inspection of Factories to the Dept of Industries and Commerce.

G.O. no. 1318-68 dated 11th Oct 1996, Directs that the Regl of Coop Societies be entrusted with the duty of attending to matters relating to the amelioration of the Labour classes.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

G.R.S. III—31

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

1) The Correspondence seems to have originated in the G.M. Branch - Pol. 194/G.M. Dy 18.8.26. The following receipts from the Residency have been received in connection with that reference but are being sent to this Br. for being worked up.

Without the main file which is said to have been Subd to the Dewan by the G.M. Br. on 28-9-26 with their D. 2393, the Correspondence

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

~~389~~ 625

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

with not be Complete. It appears to be better if all these are dealt with in the G.P.M. Branch alone. There have been no references till now on this subject that has been dealt with here.

for orders

D 2388/I.C.
D 2389/I.C.
2899/G.M.
2704/G.M.
3143/G.M.
D 2625/I.C.

11.11.26.

Supt

2) Will you kindly see me with this?

MP 13/11

3) The papers are hereunder returned, after favour of perusal & returning them with the main file, duly acknowledging receipt.

Asst Supt

MP 13/11

G.P.J. Branch with compts

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Kindly see the file received

12/11/26

2675

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

---

5) The file has not yet been received back in the Branch.

MS
18/11/26

6) [illegible]

MS
22/11

7) From the attached slip it may be seen that the papers will be sent to the, from the C.B records. The Development Secty. may get C.B 84-26-163 from the records and deal with these papers. This may therefore be sent to that Secretariat.

MS
23/11/26

H/S.
Records
Concepts

25/11

GEN. & REV.

8) The letters placed below are replies to letter no. pol. 194 of 18.8.1926 issued from in connection with the appoin

MS
23/11/26

C.B. 84-26-163

On file 0293 was received here on 20.9.26 & sent to Chief with Dewan's order on 29.9.26.

This may be sent to CB for favour of placing the [illegible] Secretariat

23/11

V.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

2625

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

---

of a Labour Commissioner in the State. No further action on these is required as orders appointing the D.C. of Dk as Labour Commissioner have issued from C.B. but these papers have ~~to be~~ properly to be arranged & stitched together along with other papers in the record collection (CB 84-26-3) placed below. This may therefore be transferred to C.B. ~~for~~ for information.

Initial 8.12.26.

1) There was another Communication from the Resid in this same matter, which was sent to the C.B. today.

Please lay up

14/12

2) This may also be sent to the C.B. if approved.

15/12

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

3) Have we a set of the latest reports of the Depts of the different Provinces and also of the Agricultural Dept?

16.12.26

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

This may be referred to the Librarian, Scott. Library, for furnishing information as to the latest reports what provinces are available in the Library

16.12.26.

List of latest reports, &c. of Agricultural Depts. of different provinces available in the G. S. I. Library is sent up.

4.1.27

Sub. for perusal with reference to para 11. Orders are solicited on para 8.

8.1.27

Sub. for perusal before recording the papers. Which will be preserved Circularly for further Reference.

17/1/27

17/1

Yes. maybe transferred to CB as suggested

12.1.27

13/1/27

These papers may be stitched along with the others in the CB file

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not i

D 3466

This is a reply to a letter issued from CB in connection with the appointment of a Labour Commission in the State. This may be transferred to CB for record with the connected file.

Submit 8.12.26 For orders

C.B. WG 14/12

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on *this form.*

List of latest reports of I. C. and Agricultural Depts. of different provinces. available in G. R. S. library. —.

Sl. No.	Province	I and C. Dept.	Agricultural Dept.
		Year.	Year
1.	Madras	1923 - 24	1924 - 25.
2.	Bombay.	- nil -	1921 - 22.
3.	Bengal.	nil -	1924 - 25.
4.	United Provinces.	nil -	1923 - 24.
5.	Punjab.	nil -	1917 - 18.
6.	Bihar & Orissa.	nil.	1923.
7.	Central Provinces.	1925.	1921 - 22.
8.	Burma.	nil -	1924 - 25.
9	Assam.	nil.	1923.

4-1-28 4/1

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

18/9/26

CB. 241-26-1

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 18th Sept. *1926*

No. 8109 Enclos. 2
74-1917

Pol. 2593
Pol. 350

GEN. & REV. SECTT. PR 18. SEP. 1926 G. D. SECTION.

A copy of the marginally* noted letter, with enclosures, is forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, for information, with reference to his letter No.Pol.194/Gm, dated the 18th August 1926.

*No. 10533 A-1 dated the 14th September 1926, from the Government of Madras, Public Works & Labour Department.

Major.
Secretary to the Resident.

P. O. 1251, R. O. 106—30-1-1926—1,000.—R.P.B.

Letter No.10533-A-1, dated the 14th September 1926, from the P.W. and Labour Department, Secretary to the Government of Madras, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

---:O:---

Papers regarding constitution of the Labour Department.
Your letter No.7718/74-1917, dated 7th September 1926.

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of G.O.No.271-Revenue, dated 2nd February 1920 which explains the circumstances under which the post of Commissioner of Labour was created and the powers and duties assigned to him. I am also to enclose copies of the annual administration reports of the Labour Department for the last three years.

---:O:---

"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR, RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Government of Madras

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 271, 2nd February 1920

Labour

Commissioner appointed.

Order—No: 271, Revenue, dated 2nd February 1920.

Miscellaneous.

In consequence of a resolution moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Dadabhoy in the Imperial Legislative Council on 16th March 1916, the Government undertook an exhaustive enquiry into the work that had already been done for the improvement of the depressed and backward classes, including aborigines, and the scope of the work that still has to be undertaken. Before the completion of this enquiry the Government, acting on the advice of the Board of Revenue, decided to place Mr. G. F. Paddison, I.C.S., on special duty for a term of two years to deal with the measures necessary for improving the condition of the depressed classes; and orders sanctioning the apppointment were issued in G.O. No. 748, dated 29th March 1919.

2. Owing to the shortage of officers Mr. Paddison's services were required in the Board of Revenue. He was for this reason unable to devote his whole time to his special work until November 1919, though a certain amount of progress was made.

3. In the meantime, the enquiry which was commenced in 1916 has been completed and a large volume of useful information has been collected.

The general effect of it is clear, namely, that it is not sufficient to confine the duties of the Special Officer to what are commonly known as the depressed classes, but that it is necessary to include within the scope of his duties all the depressed and backward classes, in other words, labour in general. This is a view that has been expressed in another connexion by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India who wrote in his despatch on the report of the Industrial Commission: "In India, where the workers are unorganized, a special obligation lies upon Government to study their welfare and to secure for them better education, better housing, and a higher standard of living. By her adherence to the International Labour Convention India will now become subject in respect of labour conditions to international criticism. This need not be resented as it is in the best interests of the country that present conditions should be improved." In pursuance of this declaration, the Government propose to develop the duties of the Special Officer for the depressed classes into those of a Commissioner of Labour.

4. Before considering the work which it is now possible to transfer to such an officer, it may be well to state what has so far been taken in hand. The duties assigned to Mr. Paddison in G.O. No. 748, Revenue, dated 29th March 1919, are as follows:—

To study the economic condition of the depressed classes, to submit to Government proposals for improving it, to see that philanthropic bodies working with the same object receive from the Government such help as they may require, and to deal with the problems connected with the education of the depressed classes and with the best means of raising their standard of living by providing them with house-sites and wells, by encouraging co-operation amongst them and by improving their labour conditions.

In pursuance of these ends two deputy collectors have been employed in the districts of Tanjore and Gōdāvari. Arrangements have been made for the acquisition of house-sites in a number of villages and 48 co-operative societies have been

established chiefly for the purpose of financing the acquisition proceedings. The work done in the direction of the promotion of education and sanitation has been less obvious, largely for want of funds, but it is hoped that a considerable advance will be made in these directions in the course of the ensuing year.

5. In examining the extension of the Special Officer's duties the first question that arises is whether there should be handed over to him the very large question of the care of the aborigines in the agency tracts whose contact with civilization must increase and who are likely to suffer in the contact unless action is taken to prepare them for it. The Government have anxiously considered this question, but have come to the conclusion that it involves far too large a duty to be added to the others which they find it necessary to impose upon the Special Officer. Moreover, the question of the agency tracts is still largely an administrative question. The Government are therefore examining this question separately from the administrative point of view, and for the present do not propose to transfer to the Special Officer the conduct of measures for the improvement of the condition of the aboriginal tribes in those areas. In other portions of the Presidency, however, the Government consider that the Special Officer should be entrusted with the conduct of such measures. One special piece of work of this nature is that which is now being conducted amongst the Chenchus in the Nallamalai hills in the Kurnool district where an officer is engaged on measures of education and temperance, and other measures calculated to turn this tribe into regular wage-earners. The conduct of these measures will hereafter be placed under Mr. Paddison's control.

6. Another class that belongs more appropriately to the depressed classes consists of what is commonly known as the criminal tribes. In connexion with these tribes special legislation has been put into force and eleven settlements have been formed at which endeavours are made to wean the inmates from their criminal ways and bring them up as self-respecting citizens. The conduct of these measures alone has been considered sufficiently important in some other provinces to justify the appointment of special officers. In Madras they have been conducted hitherto by District Magistrates who have been assisted during the last three or four years by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and Criminal Investigation Department. The general result of the work cannot, however, be considered to be altogether successful. Some settlements have had to be closed. Others have been the subject of considerable comment. In particular, the policy in respect of allotment and disbursement of funds has been somewhat ill-defined and the necessity for a more regular system of accounting and auditing has been very marked. Above all, the Government are impressed with the necessity for encouraging in every possible way private effort in connexion with the education of these tribes and the removal of them so far as possible from all contact with the Police. On behalf of the Government Mr. Paddison has recently attended a conference of officers interested in similar settlements, which was held at Delhi, and the Government have now decided to tranfer to him the general control and management of the criminal settlements. The conduct of other operations under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1911, will remain as heretofore with the Magistracy and Police.

7. Another department which has suffered from lack of proper control is that which is concerned with factory labour. The administration of the Factories Act in this province has hitherto been entrusted to the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, the Member in charge of which has had little time to attend to this special work. In the report of the Industrial Commission, it is suggested that the control of this work should be transferred to the Director of Industries. That recommendation was doubtless made in the absence of any officer more directly concerned with labour questions. Where there is such an officer, it seems to this Government unquestionable that it is preferable that he should undertake it. The Director of Industries is concerned with the development of the industries themselves rather than with the care of the labour which deals with them. On the other hand the Factory Inspectors deal largely with questions of the hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation, and other matters affecting the welfare of the labourers. These are matters which in the opinion of the Government should properly be undertaken by the Commissioner of Labour and the Government therefore resolve to place the Factory Inspectors under his control.

8. Following on these proposals comes the proposal to transfer to the Commissioner's control the question of the taking of the wage census. The Government have found that this work has been unsatisfactorily performed and recently placed Mr. Gray on special duty to enquire into particular questions connected with it. Mr. Gray has submitted his report and the orders of the Government of India for the general improvement of the census have meanwhile been received. The Government resolve to entrust the general conduct of the census, which will be made under the immediate control of District Collectors, to the Commissioner of Labour whose duty it will be to keep himself in touch with wages questions throughout the year.

9. Another question in connexion with which the need for a touring officer has been felt is that of the emigration of labour both within and outside the Presidency. This is a point which has been specially pressed by the Board of Revenue, Separate Revenue, in its Proceedings R. Mis. No. 125, dated 20th January 1917, and R. Mis. No. 1960, dated 18th December 1917, in dealing with the general question of the control of emigration. It is desirable that an officer of the Local Government should be fully in touch with all that takes place in connexion with the recruitment of labour for emigration whether to places within the Presidency or to places outside and should be aware of the arrangements made in respect of depots, sub-depots and the like through which labour passes. Mr. Paddison will therefore be now directed to concern himself with all matters affecting emigration of labour except in so far as the Port of Madras is concerned. The Collector of Madras will continue until further orders to be the Protector of Emigrants under the Indian Emigration Act, 1908.

10. Emigrant labour which goes out of the province becomes subject generally to special local legislation and there is a counterpart to this in one area within the province, namely, the Planters Labour Act which is in force in The Nilgiris and the Wynad. Another enactment which sometimes affects labour is the Workman's Breach of Contract Act. It will be one of the special functions of the commissioner of Labour to enquire into the working of these enactments.

11. It will be obvious that an officer controlling various labour interests will be in a better position than any other officer of Government to deal with the general economic aspects of the labour questions which are daily becoming more and more important, including the organization of labour, to advise with regard to the recognition or registration of labour unions, co-operative housing and the co-ordination of unofficial assistance for the health and welfare of labour in general. With the chief of the societies working in this last direction, Mr. Paddison is already unofficially connected.

12. The multifarious nature of the duties devolving on the Commissioner of Labour will demand a comparatively strong staff and a Deputy Commissioner of Labour will be required. This office will be held by Mr. Gray who is already on special duty in this connexion. The Commissioner will also take over the staff mentioned in the appendix, being that which deals with the administration of the Factories Act, 1911, and Criminal Settlements. He will also have a staff consisting of several Deputy Collectors with their assistants for the purpose of developing co-operation, housing schemes, and schemes for the education of labourers in various districts of this Presidency. These officers will be called Assistant Commissioners of Labour. In view of the responsible nature of their duties, the Deputy Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioners will each receive a deputation allowance of one-fifth of their salary. The Government of India will be moved to sanction the grant of a similar allowance to the Commissioner.

13. Finally the Government propose to associate with the Commissioner an Advisory Board of persons informed on and interested in labour questions. Mr. Paddison will be requested to nominate immediately suitable persons for appointment to the Board.

(True extract)

E. S. Lloyd,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To G. F. Paddison, Esq., I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour.
,, the Board of Revenue (all Departments).
,, the Departments of the Secretariat.
,, the Publicity Officer.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, all Collectors.
Editors' Table.

APPENDIX.

Staff dealing with Criminal Settlements attached to the Office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and Criminal Investigation Department.	1 Inspector of Police. 1 Temporary clerk on Rs. 40–5–90.
Staff dealing with the administration of the Factories Act, 1911.	Chief Inspector of Factories (Rs. 700–30–1,000). 2 Inspectors of Factories (Rs. 400–30–700). 3 Head clerks—1 (Rs. 60–4–80) and 2 (Rs. 40–1–45). 7 Clerks—3 (Rs. 30–1–35) and 4 (Rs. 20–1–25). 1 Typist (Rs. 20–1–30). 1 Daffadar (Rs. 12). 13 peons—6 (Rs. 10) and 7 (Rs. 9).

Government of Madras

LAW (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2496, 15th October 1923

Labour—Labour Department—Administration report—1922-23—Recorded.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter from G. F. PADDISON, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour, to the Secretary to Government, Law (General) Department, dated Madras, the 4th July 1923, D. Dis. No. 434/23.

I have the honour to forward herewith the administration report of the Labour Department for the year 1922-23.

ENCLOSURE

FOURTH REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, 1922-23.

Personnel.—Mr. G. F. Paddison, M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., continued to be the Commissioner of Labour throughout the year. M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur S. K. Sundaracharlu Avargal, M.A., was Personal Assistant to the Commissioner till the 8th April 1922 when he had to be relieved on the abolition of his post. A Manager's post was newly sanctioned in the place of the Personal Assistant. M.R.Ry. K. Rangaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., Tahsildar, South Arcot, who was selected for the new Manager's post joined his duties on the 19th April 1922 and was in charge throughout the year.

2. *Touring.*—The Commissioner visited during the year the districts of Nellore, Guntur, South Arcot, Chittoor, Tanjore, Gōdāvari, Chingleput, Madura and Trichinopoly. He also inspected the Criminal Tribes Settlements at Kavali, Sitanagaram, Stuartpuram, Aziznagar, Bhumannagedda, Pallavaram, Perambur and the Reformatory Settlement, Guntur. He also visited Bangalore to inspect the Salvation Army School there and the new housing scheme for depressed classes at Knoxpet. While there he attended a Conference of Planters at Bangalore to explain to them the provisions of the new Factories Act.

3. The activities of the department in regard to the various branches of work entrusted to it are detailed below.

4. *Administration of the Indian Factories Act XII of* 1911 *and control of factories.*—As usual a detailed report on the working of the Act has been separately submitted to Government with this office letter D. Dis. No. 370/23, dated 4th June 1923. The amendment of the Act which took effect from 1st July 1922 necessitated a thorough revision of the rules under the Act. Many intricate questions had to be considered in deciding the new rules. The draft of the rules thus framed was published by Government in Development Notification No. 300, dated 10th October 1922. The enforcement of the provisions of the new Act in regard to the period and hours of employment (the eleven-hours day, the sixty-hours week, the rest interval and the weekly holiday), fencing, guarding and repairing certain dangerous parts of factory premises and machinery contained thereon, the employment of child labour and the registration of new factories with reference to the widened definition of the term " factory " put a considerable strain on the work of the Factory Inspectors. It is satisfactory to note that as already observed in the detailed report submitted to Government that the employers with few exceptions have done all in their power to see that the Act is carried out in the spirit and in the letter.

In March 1923 the Legislative Council during the voting of grants for 1923-24 decided to abolish the post of the Chief Inspector of Factories. As the abolition of this post must necessarily result in a deterioration of the work done by the Department, His Excellency the Governor was pleased to certify the grant as essential for the discharge of his responsibilities and the post was eventually restored.

5. *Labour*—(i) *Labour Disputes.*—It is pleasing to note that the labour situation was on the whole very quiet during the year. Twenty-three strikes occurred during the year but almost all of them were not of much importance.

Of the 10 strikes that occurred in Madras City, 2 were in printing presses, 1 in Aluminium works, 2 in iron foundries, 2 in a cotton mill, 1 in an oil installation, 1 in a clothing depot and 1 in a Railway Workshop. Of the remaining 13 which occurred in the mufassal, 2 were in cotton mills, 2 in jute mills, 1 in a Railway workshop, 1 in a Brick and Tile works, 1 in a rice mill and 6 others in miscellaneous occupations.

The demands in 13 cases related to pay, in 2 to leave and hours, in 4 to personal matters and in the remaining 4 to other causes.

The strikers were successful in 6 cases, partially successful in 4 and unsuccessful in 10 ; in the remaining 3 cases the results were indefinite. The strikes lasted for periods varying from 2 hours to 89 days.

A statement showing the principal strikes that occurred during the year is printed as appendix I to this report.

(ii) *Labour Unions.*—Most of the unions were dormant as in the previous year. Though attempts have been made by some leaders to revive the activities of the unions, very little has actually been done. There was much talk of a proposed labour conference with a view to reorganize and revive the activities of the unions in the Madras City, but nothing actually took place. The only union that is showing signs of life by holding regular meetings is the M. & S.M. Railway workshop employees' union, Perambur. As already observed the Trade Union Bill when it comes into force will probably give an opportunity for unions to be worked on regular lines.

(iii) *Welfare Work.*—The management of many of the leading factories are taking steps to start welfare work for the benefit of their employees. Welfare committee, workmen stores, recreation grounds, provident, sick and pension funds, creches and free reading rooms are among those that are provided.

Mention was already made in the previous report about the constitution of a welfare committee in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills. This committee is continuing to do excellent work. It is gratifying to note that many questions were amicably settled by open discussion in the committee, which otherwise would have ended in industrial disputes. A workmen's store was formed in Buckingham and Carnatic Mills and it was opened by the Hon'ble Mr. A. R. Knapp, C.S.I., C.B.E., in October last. All articles of food stuffs and other necessaries of life are sold to the employees on credit in the store. Similar stores are also being run for the benefit of the employees of the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factory, Limited, Kulasekarapatnam and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway employees, Perambur.

(iv) *Labour Advisory Board.*—Mr. N. M. Murray, Secretary and Treasurer of the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti Garu and Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar, M.L.C., were appointed members of the Board in the seats that fell vacant during the year. Three meetings of the Board were held during the year and the following were the subjects discussed.

(1) Questions connected with the machinery to prevent or settle labour disputes.

(2) Draft conventions and recommendations of the Third International Labour Conference, Geneva, regarding the use of white lead in painting ; and

(3) Workmen's Compensation Bill.

(v) *General.*—After the bitter struggle of the previous year, a period of comparative calm has virtually ensued. The labourers were disappointed with their leaders and with their unions, prices have fallen slightly and wages have remained as they were. The few strikes that occurred were carried on with very little bitterness on either side and nearly all of them were settled in a very brief period.

6. *Working of the Planters Labour Act and the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act.*—No special questions arose during the year regarding their working. The Commissioner examined the records of magistrates' offices in the course of his tour and discussed the question with planters and others.

7. *Wages Census.*—The quinquennial census of wages taken in 1921 was tabulated with the aid of a special staff under the supervision of Mr. V. B. Duraisami Mudaliyar, B.A., who was appointed as Special Tahsildar for the work. A report on the census was submitted to Government in July 1922 and it was placed on the Editors' Table in G.O. No. 262, Law (General), dated 24th January 1923. The method adopted in the census of 1921 was different from that of previous ones. The principal change introduced in this census was the division of the Presidency into homogeneous tracts instead of taking each district as the unit. On the whole, the wages of artizans, ploughmen and other agricultural labourers have generally risen but no useful detailed comparison of the statistics of the present census could be made with those of the previous one in view of the changes mentioned above in regard to the method of compiling the statistics.

8. *Emigration.*—Under the new Emigration Act VII of 1922, emigration for the purpose of unskilled work is not lawful except to such countries and on such terms and conditions as the Governor-General in Council may notify with the previous approval of both Chambers of the Indian Legislature. By this provision emigration to Ceylon and Straits Settlements which was not under any restriction for a long time was for the first time brought under control. Emigration to these countries for unskilled work was declared to be lawful in Notification Nos. 136 and 137, Emigration, dated 17th February 1923, of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture. Emigration under the new conditions has only just begun so that it is as yet too early to pronounce on the effect of the Act. So far however, everything has gone smoothly with the co-operation of the officials of the Governments concerned.

In Notification No. 282, Emigration, dated 22nd March 1923, of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, emigration to Mauritius was also declared to be lawful for one year on almost similar conditions with a further proviso regarding wages. The number of persons that can be recruited under this notification has been limited to 1,500.

The rules under the Act have been framed by the end of the official year and finally published in Government of India Notification No. 212, dated 10th March 1923. The Commissioner of Labour advised Government on many important questions connected with the rules and terms and conditions to be prescribed under the Act. A Protector of Emigrants has been appointed for each of the ports from which emigration is lawful under the Act, viz., Dhanushkodi, Negapatam and Tuticorin, in addition to Madras which had already a Protector.

9. *South African repatriates.*—Under the voluntary repatriation scheme of the Union Government of South Africa, about 1,700 persons arrived at Madras on various dates during the official year. The repatriates were as usual paid batta and railway fare to reach their destinations. Some of these repatriates were bound for Calcutta and Bombay and arrangements were made to despatch them to those places. The Protector of Emigrants, Madras, arranged for their reception in Madras. The repatriates, when questioned by him, made no complaints as to the treatment they received both in the colony and during the voyage. As usual the repatriates were also questioned as to whether they were in need of any help in obtaining work and almost all of them did not require any assistance. Such of those as did apply were given all possible assistance either by the Protector or by the Commissioner of Labour. A few repatriates who applied to this office for help were given temporary work as menials in this office till they secured other work.

10. *Labour and Employment Bureau.*—Many applications were received from persons who returned from overseas or war service. A considerable number was found work, but owing to depression in trade great difficulty was experienced in a majority of cases.

Applications were also received from members of the depressed classes and a few South African repatriates and all possible assistance was given to them. In connexion with a memorial submitted by the Adi-Dravidas of Vyasarpadi Refugees Camp, Government observed in G.O. No. 1844, Law (General), dated 2nd August 1923, that the Commissioner of Labour should see whether it is possible to interest the Police and the Military recruiting officers in the recruitment of Adi-Dravidas. In the Military Department they have no trouble at all as Pioneers and other Madras Regiments are mostly Adi-Dravidas. A list of Adi-Dravidas willing to enrol themselves as constables was sent to the Commissioner of Police. Mr. Hannyngton, the then Commissioner, was pleased to give due consideration to the Adi-Dravida applicants and to enlist several of them as constables.

11. *Depressed classes.*—(i) The special staffs continued to work in the districts of Tanjore, Gōdāvari, Chingleput and South Arcot. The posts of the Assistant Labour Commissioners were abolished at the beginning of April 1922. The staffs in the districts worked without an officer immediately over them for over four months and the head clerks of the respective offices were in charge of the offices until Special Tahsildars were appointed at the end of August 1922, to work under the immediate control of the Collectors concerned. The nomenclature of these Special Tahsildars was eventually changed into District Labour Officers. The work in South Arcot was transferred to the control of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chidambaram, in November 1922. The progress reports received from the District Labour Officers and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chidambaram, are printed as * appendices II to V to this Report.

(ii) *Tanjore district.*—Fifty-three cases of acquisition of land for house-sites involving an extent of 57 acres 66¼ cents at a cost of Rs. 53,711-15-1 were completed during the year. Besides an extent of 4 acres 80½ cents for the provision of pathways, school sites, well sites, etc., was acquired during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,494-12-3. Sixty-six cases of acquisition involving an extent of 69·04 acres of land at an estimated cost of Rs. 48,905-9-10 are in various stages of progress at the close of the year.

Thirty co-operative societies were organized during the year making up a total of 202 societies at the end of the year. Three hundred and five villages are included in the operations of these societies. The District Labour Officer's report dealing with the desirability of appointing men of status as Honorary Superintendents of Field Labourers' Societies is awaited and will be dealt with separately.

Forty-nine new schools were organized during the year making up a total of 166 schools at the end of the year. The total strength of all these schools is 4,325 including 412 girls. Out of these schools, 4 have been started solely for the benefit of Kallar boys. The opening of schools for Kallar boys was sanctioned in G.O. No. 1131, Law (General), dated 1st May 1922. A sum of Rs. 500 has been paid by the Kallar Mahasangam, Tanjore, as contribution towards non-recurring charges of these Kallar schools. The District Labour Officer has taken steps to replace untrained teachers by trained men who returned from training schools at the end of the year. Fifteen school sheds were constructed during the year at a cost of Rs. 2,768. Furniture, slates and books were supplied to the schools at an aggregate cost of Rs. 5,913.

The suit in O.S. No. 41/21 on the file of the District Munsif's Court, Valangiman, regarding the acquisition of land in Rendankattalai and some other villages in Kumbakonam taluk was decreed against Government. The District Labour Officer reports that this decision has had a very bad effect in getting through acquisition work in Kumbakonam and the adjoining taluks. An appeal has been filed in the court of the Sub-Judge, Kumbakonam, and the result is awaited.

The Collector empowered the District Labour Officer to assign lands reserved by him for the depressed classes. The Board of Revenue sanctioned in B.P. No. 2267,

* Not printed.

Rout., dated 18th August 1922, the disafforestation and assignment to the depressed classes through Co-operative Societies of the entire extents (2,173·13 acres) of the Naduvur, Pudur and Koliangarai blocks in the Tanjore taluk. The Board of Revenue, when recently enquired whether the subdivision of the blocks was completed, replied that the work of clearing the forest growth preparatory to survey has not yet been finished in two of the blocks and that the survey of the blocks into three acre fields will be made soon after the forest growth is cleared. Co-operative Societies have been organized and started in these three villages.

The District Labour Officer's report through the Collector regarding the leasing out of the Padugai lands by Department of Public Works on favourable terms is awaited, and will be dealt with separately.

The Commissioner inspected in October 1922, 23 cheris in the Tanjore district, where the work of the Labour Department is going on in various stages. The Commissioner was convinced that on the whole, work is being well done throughout, though in a few minor cases criticisms were necessary. A largely attended conference with Mirasidars was held in Nannilam where a very frank discussion lasting several hours took place. The result of the notes of inspection was reported to Government in this office letter D.C. No. 1176/22-23, dated 21st November 1922.

(iii) *Gōdāvari district.*—The Commissioner inspected in September 1922, the work that was being done in the district and a copy of his notes was submitted to Government with his letter No. D.C. 939/22-23, dated 9th October 1922. The activities of the special staff were mainly in the Amalapur and Razole taluks where the two sections of depressed classes are mostly Adi-Andhras and fishermen. The work in the district consists of the provision of house-sites, pathways, the lease of lankas and assignment of waste lands for cultivation, the organization and supervision of co-operative societies, the provision of elementary schools, the construction of drinking water tanks and wells. Relief to the extent of providing house-sites was extended to the Setti Balijas also.

House-sites.—There were 50 cases of acquisition of land for house-sites involving an extent of 49·30 acres at a cost of Rs. 62,479 for relieving congestion or removing harassment by land-owners. The land acquired was aligned into 1,082 sites of which 772 were for Adi-Andhras, 282 for Setti Balijas and 28 for fishermen. In addition to the above, 55 cases of acquisition costing about Rs. 80,000 and covering an area of 60·58 acres to form 1,236 house-sites were in various stages of progress at the end of the year. Fifty acres of poramboke land were converted into 964 house-sites and assigned free of cost, mostly to Adi-Andhras. Proposals for the conversion of 43 acres of poramboke land covering 1,050 sites were under scrutiny at the end of the year. Four hundred and ninety-three house-sites were granted in 32·45 acres of lanka land. Assessment at the highest dry rate of the village is charged on these lanka sites. Ninety-six sites in 1·22 acres of land acquired by the Public Works Department were sold to Adi-Andhras at market rate, the cost being payable in ten instalments.

Communication, sanitation and water-supply.—Three pathways covering an extent of 0·58 acre, one latrine ground of 0·20 acre, one well site of 0·03 acre were acquired during the year. The total cost of acquisition was Rs. 417. Three foot-paths across reserved forests subject to tide and backwaters ebbing were laid at a cost of Rs. 2,822 for the benefit of fishermen. Two drinking-water tanks were dug, three ponds repaired all at a cost of Rs. 2,331. Twenty-five pot-ring wells at a cost of Rs. 1,181 and nine brick wells for Rs. 1,590 were sunk.

Assignment of lands for cultivation.—Lease of lankas without auction is becoming one of the most attractive features of ameliorative work in the district and it has helped rapidly to advance the economic condition of the Adi-Andhras at little or no expense to Government. One thousand three hundred and thirteen acres of lanka land in 34 villages bearing an annual rental of Rs. 19,453 were newly leased during the year to Adi-Andhra co-operative societies. The total area of lanka lands leased up to the end of the year comes to about 7,000 acres with an annual rental of

Rs. 1,06,000. Sixty-six acres of waste land at the disposal of Government were assigned permanently to individual applicants and 155 acres of Government land were leased on cowle to co-operative societies.

Co-operation.—Sixty-seven co-operative societies were organized during the year, of which 27 were registered and started and the rest serving the probation period of six months according to new rules at the end of the year. The total number of societies under the control of the Labour Department is 166 with 9,681 members. Loans to the extent of Rs. 18,140 were obtained during the year for 31 societies, from co-operative banks.

Education.—Twenty new schools were opened during the year. The total number of schools started up to the end of the year is 83 with a strength of 2,633 pupils. Four school sheds were constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,131 and four old sheds were repaired for Rs. 174. Furniture, books, appliances, etc., were supplied during the year to 18 schools at a total cost of Rs. 1,376.

General.—It is fortunate that during the year the operations were not met with any inter-caste disturbances. There is evidence of a change of attitude of the higher castes towards the depressed classes work. The only instance of a fracas was at Ramarazulanka, Razole taluk, where the ill-feeling engendered last year on account of the lease of the lankas was lurking for some time. Whole-sale dismissal of labourers by the landowners followed and a rioting between the Kapus and Adi-Andhras ensued. Matters were finally settled by the intervention of the Labour Officer.

(iv) *Chingleput district.*—On the recommendation of the Collector, the staff that worked under the Assistant Commissioner of Labour was abolished excepting the Deputy Surveyor, the Special Sanitary maistry and two peons. The special work was confined to Saidapet taluk last year but it was extended throughout the District under orders of the Collector. The ordinary revenue staff of firka Revenue Inspectors and Tahsildars are affording necessary help to the District Labour Officer in carrying out the work. Work in regard to grant of house-sites in existing cheris and by adding porambokes are to be dealt with exclusively by the Taluk Tahsildars as also work connected with reservation and assignment of lands for cultivation. All other items of ameliorative work are attended to by the District Labour Officer.

House-sites.—An extent of 4·46 acres was acquired at a cost of Rs. 1,966-14-10. 246·60 acres of poramboke land have been converted into house-sites in 71 villages.

Land for cultivation.—An extent of 7,334 acres of poramboke and waste lands was reserved for assignment for depressed classes, of which an extent of 979 acres was assigned to individual members at the rate of one acre per adult male. Much work in the direction is expected to be turned out this year as soon as the staff of one Special Revenue Inspector and two Deputy Surveyors applied for in this office letter No. D.C. 780/23, dated 11th May 1923, to Government is sanctioned.

Communication, sanitation and water-supply.—An extent of 0·04 acre was acquired for a pathway for Adi-Dravidas at a cost of Rs. 46 and an extent of 0·17 acre was acquired at a cost of Rs. 58-1-2 for a burial-ground. 2·15 acres of poramboke land was converted into burial-ground for Adi-Dravidas in three villages. Eighteen well-works were completed and eighteen others were under several stages of execution during the year. The amount spent on wells was Rs. 7,892.

Education.—Twenty-one combined day and night schools and four night schools were started during the year. The total number of schools started up to the end of the year is fifty (forty five combined day and night and five night schools) with a strength of 2,111 pupils. An interesting feature in some of the labour schools in this district is that they contain children of some caste labourers who have no scruples of untouchability.

Co-operation.—Twelve societies were organized during the year of which ten were registered and the remaining two serve the period of probation for six months. The total number of societies started up to the end of the year is 35 with 848 members. Loans to the extent of Rs. 4,320 were obtained from the co-operative bank for eight societies.

(v) *South Arcot district.*—In G.O. No. 2000, Law (General), dated 25th August 1922, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chidambaram, was entrusted with the duty of supervising the work carried on by the special staff of this district. Much progress could not be made as the Revenue Divisional Officer's attention had to be diverted to his work in the regular line.

(vi) On the recommendation of the Commissioner, Government were pleased to sanction the extension during the current official year of the operations of the Labour Department in the districts of Kistna, Guntur, Bellary, South Kanara, and Trichinopoly and to appoint a separate District Labour Officer for South Arcot. Work in all these districts—Kistna, Guntur, Trichinopoly, Bellary and South Kanara—have since commenced. The Commissioner made a preliminary tour in Kistna, Guntur, South Kanara and Bellary to see to the starting of the work.

(vii) The following are the most important items of the work done during the year in districts were there is no special staff with the help of the Collectors, local boards and social workers :—

(*a*) *Madras.*—In view to improve the condition of cheris in the City of Madras the Commissioner convened a meeting of the social workers in the City and marked to them the cheris for inspection and report on the several items of ameliorative work required for each cheri. Reports from some of the workers have been received and Commissioner has inspected twelve of these cheris and over-checked the reports. It is hoped that substantial work will be carried out during the current official year with the help and hearty co-operation of the non-official social workers of Madras.

The Madras City Tenants Protection Act IV of 1922.—Since the passing of the Act very few cases of threats of eviction of the Adi-Dravida tenants by the landlords of the City were reported.

Swami Naicken Cheri of Purasawakam.—This cheri which was acquired by Government and taken possession of in 1921 in order to protect the tenants from being evicted by the landlord, has not yet been handed over to the tenants as the Small Cause Court enhanced the compensation from Rs. 29,885-2-5 to Rs. 72,748-11-2. The matter is under appeal before the High Court. Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, news of whose lamented death has just been received, very kindly undertook to conduct the appeal in the High Court free of fees. Rents which the tenants were paying to the landlord before acquisition are being collected from them. The question of effecting sanitary improvements to the cheri, namely, providing lights and drainage arrangements to the streets and lanes, metalling the streets and lanes, putting up extra water tap, etc., is under correspondence with the Corporation of Madras.

Refugees camp at Vyasarpadi.—Last year about 80 houses were constructed by Mr. Madeley, the Corporation Special Engineer, under the control of the Madras City and Suburban Town-planning trust for providing houses to the labourers who lost their houses by fire during the mill troubles. The houses constructed had to be given up as the cost was too high for the labourers who lost all their belongings with their houses to take up. It was therefore decided to build for them comparatively cheap tiled houses at a cost of rupees 350 to Rs. 400. To this end, Commissioner inspected a number of sites in the City of Madras to build houses upon and R.S. No. 2347/2 of Purasawakam which is at the disposal of Government was ultimately selected and orders of Government for the alienation of the site to this department is awaited. Commissioner hoped to start during the year the work of construction of the houses and spend over it a sum of Rs. 10,000 from the budget grant under "Free grants" but he had to give up this idea as the site applied for was not placed at his disposal in time. A sum of Rs. 80,000 (Rs. 30,000 under free grants and Rs. 50,000 under loans) has been provided for the purpose in the current year's budget and as soon as the site is secured steps will be taken to start the work. It is proposed to hand over the houses constructed to a house-building co-operative society for which 71 persons have enrolled as members and a sum of Rs. 1,326 has been collected as share capital and entrance fees. The number on the roll would have been more were it not for the delay in obtaining the site.

Scholarships.—A comprehensive scheme for granting scholarships to deserving student members of depressed classes reading in educational and industrial subjects was worked out by the Commissioner and sent up for orders of Government. A sum of Rs. 30,000 has been ear-marked in the budget for 1923–24 for the grant of scholarships.

Adi-Dravida hostel at Madras.—The hostel which was started in 1920 by M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja Avargal, M.L.C., was closed in December 1921, as it fell on evil days on account of the mill troubles and was not revived for the reason that he was not able to raise subscription from private persons. Provision of Rs. 10,000 has therefore been made in the budget for 1923–24 for opening a Government hostel under the control of the Commissioner of Labour aided by an advisory committee of five members. It is hoped to open the hostel as soon as the school re-opens after the summer vacation.

Grant to Poor Schools Society, Madras.—A sum of Rs. 1,475 was granted to the Poor Schools Society for the maintenance of day and night schools run by the society in the City and for the construction of sheds for the school managed by the society in the suburb.

Grant to Social Service League.—A grant of Rs. 750 was made to the league for the maintenance of the Adi-Dravida and other poor schools under its control.

New schools recognized.—Four more schools—a Madiga night school at Perambur, a fisherman night school at Rayapuram, an Adi-Dravida night school at Rayapuram, at Dr. Narayanasami garden, a school near Adyar (day and night) for fishermen and Adi-Dravidas,—were taken under the control of this department, making the total number of schools under this department in the City to five. A sum of Rs. 217–10–6 was spent in constructing a shed for the last mentioned school.

Relief to the Adi-Dravidas of Rangayyantope near Mylapore.—In July last about 30 huts of Adi-Dravida tenants of the locality accidentally caught fire. The Adi-Dravidas were driven homeless and relief was afforded to them by the grant of Re. 1 per family for maintenance for two days. Building materials to the value of Rs. 195 were purchased and distributed to them free. Normal conditions were restored in a few days.

Fishermen school, Dummingkuppam.—The Commissioner inspected the fishermen hamlet and on his recommendation the Collector of Madras was pleased to alienate on behalf of the Depressed Classes Mission Society a plot of land for construction of two school sheds for fishermen boys.

Grant to Arundhatia Mahasabha, Perambur.—A sum of Rs. 2,000 was given to the sabha under the provisions of the Grant-in-aid Code for the purchase of the premises and site where the night school for Madigas of Peramburpalaiyam is now held.

(*b*) Grants as detailed below were sanctioned to Collectors, presidents of district and taluk boards, chairmen of municipal councils and other special officers for the provision of drinking-water wells to depressed classes and the works were executed under their supervision :—

Name of district.	Number of wells.	Amount sanctioned. Rs.	A.	P.
North Arcot	31	13,020	0	0
Kurnool	18	14,274	0	0
Tinnevelly	1	745	0	0
Chingleput	26	9,190	0	0
Madura	13	2,953	11	0
Nellore	6	3,140	0	0
South Arcot	3	1,800	0	0
Bellary	19	11,290	0	0
Tanjore	20	4,620	0	0

(*c*) *Salem district.*—A sum of Rs. 196 was granted to certain Adi-Dravidas of Pennagaram village to rebuild their houses which were destroyed by fire.

The school at Manivilandan which was taken under the control of this department last year continued to be under this department during the year.

(*d*) *Trichinopoly district.*—A sum of Rs. 152 was granted for the formation of a cart-track in Nannimangalam cheri, Lalgudi taluk.

(*e*) *Madura district.*—On the recommendation of the Kallar Special Officer, Madura, relief was afforded to an extent of Rs. 730 to the depressed classes in certain villages of the Kallarnad for damages caused to their houses by floods during the rains of last year. On the recommendations of the same officer, five roads, one pathway, one causeway across an irrigation channel, one culvert and five bridges were constructed for the benefit of the depressed classes in the Kallarnad villages at a cost of Rs. 8,467-8-0 in all.

(*f*) *Ramnad district.*—An extent of 300 acres of assessed waste lands in Nattukudi village of Srivilliputtur taluk was reserved for assignment to the Adi-Dravidas of the village.

(*g*) *South Kanara district.*—A sum of Rs. 43-2-0 was granted towards half the cost of the eye treatment of an Adi-Dravida boy of the Mangalore Depressed Classes Mission, the other half being borne by the Mission.

(*h*) *Cuddapah district.*—A sum of Rs. 888 was given to Mrs. Marian P. Stringfellow of Kamalapuram for the maintenance of a cottage industry for depressed classes widows.

(*i*) *Guntūr district.*—The Collector has sent up his proposals for the extension of Itanagarapalem, a hamlet of Tenali, Guntūr district. The Commissioner was not able to inspect the locality before the close of the year. It was done since and the lines on which fresh proposals for relieving congestion and providing house-sites to the needy people in the locality should be made were pointed out to the Chairman, Municipal Council.

(*j*) *Kistna district.*—The school for Adi-Andhras at Kuttavapadu, Tanuku taluk, was taken under the control of the Labour Department from 1st July 1922.

Disposal of the disafforested blocks, Kistna district.—In response to a reference from the Board of Revenue, the Commissioner sent up proposals for the reservation of a plot of land of about 22 acres of disafforested land in Bezwada for being granted as house-sites to depressed classes who were in pressing need for the same, through a house-building co-operative society. Orders have since been received from Government placing at the disposal of the Commissioner a plot of land five acres in extent to be sold to applicants who should form themselves as members of a house-building co-operative society. The Collector has been requested to get the needful done by the District Labour Officer, who has been appointed for the district or through the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Reservation of 1,112 *acres of land for assignment to depressed classes in Divi Island.*—Government called for proposals as to the lines on which co-operative societies should be formed so as to enable the grantees to the land to secure loans for purchasing agricultural implements and other agricultural operation on the land. The Commissioner was not able to inspect the Divi Island and the lands ordered to be granted to the depressed classes within the year. He has done it since and the matter is under correspondence with the Government.

(*k*) *Vizagapatam district.*—An extent of 1·90 acre was acquired at a cost of Rs. 1,259-3-11 for providing house-sites to Adi-Andhras of Murakada village, Narasapatam taluk, under the direct instalment system obtaining in Gōdāvari district.

(viii) Appendix VI gives details of work done in the several districts in the matter of reservation and assignment of lands for cultivation for the depressed classes.

(ix) *Representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies.*—A statement showing the representation of the depressed classes in the several local bodies of the Madras Presidency is enclosed. Though there has been marked improvement in the representation of depressed classes as compared with the statement of the last year, yet there are still several taluk boards and municipalities with no depressed classes

members at all. It is hoped that efforts will be made this year to have suitable members of the depressed classes nominated to those bodies which have none at present.

12. *Kallars.*—A separate report on Kallar reclamation work for the calendar year 1922 was sent to Government with this office No. 63, dated 30th May 1923. It shows very good work and Mr. Raja Ayyar deserves every credit for it. Attempts are being made to keep the Kallars employed in various pursuits such as cattle rearing, keeping grocery shops, cottage industries such as weaving, carpentry, rope and tape making, bell metal industry, etc. There are now 24 industrial centres as against 19 in the previous year. The younger generation are being given primary education and in a few cases vocational training also. One hundred and ninety-five schools have so far been started and the total number on the rolls was 6,356 boys and 431 girls. In addition, 107 boys and 35 girls are in boarding schools. The Kallars are being helped in every possible way to improve their income and reduce their expenditure by the grant of lands and grant of agricultural and industrial loans. During the year under report the Government advanced Rs. 1,37,420 at 7½ per cent to old Kallar co-operative societies to enable them to liquidate their debts to the Madura-Ramnad Bank. The results thus far achieved show clearly that real reformation is taking place among the Kallars.

13. *Management and control of Criminal Tribes Settlements.*—(i) The Commissioner during the year visited the Bhumannagedda, Aziznagar, Pallavaram, Perambur, Reformatory Settlement, Guntūr, Sitanagram, Stuartpuram and Kavali Settlements. The working of the settlements on the whole was satisfactory. Special administration reports have been sent on each settlement and they do not therefore call for a detailed report here.

(ii) The Hon'ble Mr. Knapp visited the Kavali Settlement with the Commissioner and discussed the whole question of their future *in situ* with the Commissioner and Mr. Bawden, the Manager. The general conclusion to which he has come was that the Settlement at Kavali itself is too large and cannot provide suitable employment for the number of inmates kept there. It has therefore been decided that as many as possible of the settlers should be transferred to Bitragunta and Allur. In these places land is available which will provide work for a considerable number of settlers and will be sufficient to maintain them altogether if the projects for the drainage of the Allur swamp materialize.

(iii) The Government have also ordered that a penal or reformatory settlement for incorrigibles should be instituted at Kavali under the management of the American Baptist Mission. This reformatory settlement will render unnecessary the continuance of the settlement at Guntūr now under the management of the Salvation Army. The total abolition of the Bhumannagedda Settlement has also been ordered by transferring the inmates to the Stuartpuram Settlement. These proposals are in process of being carried out.

(iv) The Aziznagar and Siddhapuram Settlements continue to be in charge of Police Inspectors on special duty. In the former about 75 per cent of the settlement population have lands of their own. This is very satisfactory. The yield is said to have been fair. The total extent of cultivable lands in this settlement is about 1,114 acres, of which 266 acres are wet and 848 acres are dry. About 200 acres of wet and 467 acres of dry land have been distributed to the settlers and there remain about 66 acres of wet and 381 acres of dry land still to be distributed. This has to be done gradually after the lands have been reclaimed. The approximate kist for fasli 1332 comes to Rs. 1,275 and out of this a sum of Rs. 1,019-8-0 has already been collected up to the end of March 1923.

At the Siddhapuram Settlement about 200 acres of land were sown at the Government expense of Rs. 1,893-14-0 and the yield from the land on account of grains and fodder is estimated at Rs. 3,000. Eighty acres of land were cultivated by the different members and they obtained a return worth about Rs. 800. The land in this settlement is fertile and agriculture is developing fairly rapidly.

(v) The administration of the five settlements (Stuartpuram, Sitanagram, Perambur, Pallavaram and Reformatory Settlement, Guntūr) under the management

of the Salvation Army continued to be satisfactory. In order that the settlers might take more personal interest in the cultivation of lands temporary conditional pattas for 281 acres were issued to the settlers of the Stuartpuram Settlement. At the Stuartpuram and Sitanagram Settlements the settlers cultivated 683 and 178 acres of land respectively. The number of settlers in the Stuartpuram Settlement on 31st March 1923 was 1,779. The Manager felt the necessity for an Assistant and one was sanctioned from 18th November 1922 on Rs. 150 per mensem.

At Sitanagaram, the settlers are taught weaving, carpet-making, swab-making and stone-dressing. The Perambur Settlement being close to Mills there is enough employment for the settlers. The Police Department gave an order to the Pallavaram Settlement for 14,000 pairs of sandals and this was executed before the end of the year. The need for an additional industry was felt at this settlement as many of the children are becoming old enough to be taught some trade. In this respect carpet-making was suggested and Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,300 to commence the industry, which is now receiving attention.

(vi) *Medical relief.*—Medical relief to settlers has in most cases been provided at the cost of Government who have generally directed the nearest medical officer to visit them periodically.

(vii) *Education of children.*—Perhaps the most important function which the settlements perform is the care for and proper education of the children. In each of the settlements there is a local school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The Government have undertaken to bear the net cost of these schools. The Director of Public Instruction has also been directed to have the schools periodically inspected. The following statement shows the number of children receiving education on 31st March 1923 in the schools attached to the settlements mentioned:—

Settlement.	Number of children receiving education.	
	Boys.	Girls.
Siddhapuram	23	17
Kavali	225	188
Reformatory Settlement, Guntūr	18	4
Stuartpuram	183	154
Sitanagram	106	44
Perambur	15	39
Pallavaram	22	21
Aziznagar	115	58 (excluding the 58 adults)
Kulasekarapatnam	25	20
Bhumannagedda	28	6

Besides these, there were 28 boys in the Salvation Army School, Bangalore, and 43 girls in the Salvation Army Girls' School, Nellore, established by Government under section 17 of the Criminal Tribes Act. The boys in the former school were taught in weavery, mulberry cultivation, sericulture, silk reeling and rearing the silk worm and the girls in the latter school in sewing.

(viii) The policy of releasing settlers of proved good conduct is always kept in view and during the year the discharge of 65 settlers was ordered under section 18 of the Criminal Tribes Act and the registration of 21 settlers was cancelled under section 7 (1) of the Criminal Tribes Act.

(ix) *Lambadies settlement.*—The report * of the Collector of Guntūr on the working of the settlement is enclosed. The estimate for Rs. 1,250 for the construction of a well in Pillutla Settlement referred to in paragraph 4 of the report has since been sanctioned. The question of giving industrial training to the settlers at Vinukonda is being considered.

(x) *Other criminal tribes.*—In G.O. No. 1634, Development, dated 6th December 1922, Government have passed orders on the question of the treatment of Chenchus on the Nallamalais in the Kurnool district and the policy to be adopted towards them. In order to secure financial co-ordination, it has been ordered that there should be a Chenchu Budget prepared by the Collector to include (*a*) educational measures, (*b*) agricultural measures, (*c*) emergency coupes and other forms of

* Not printed.

forest work, and that the entire charge connected with the Chenchu operations should with effect from 1923-24 be debited to the head '8. Forest'. On the administrative side the Collector will be the local co-ordinating and controlling authority and the functions of the Labour Commissioner, the Educational Department and the Agricultural Department will be to advise and co-operate in their respective spheres with the Collector. The Government have also accepted the further recommendations in regard to the application of Part I of the Criminal Tribes Act to the Chenchus, arming certain forest guards, and the exercise of magisterial powers by the Special Chenchu Officer, put forward by the Commissioner with the concurrence of the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Collector.

During the year 52 males, 64 females and 66 children of the gang of Donga Dasaris of the Bellary district were interned in the Hubli Settlement of the Bombay Presidency and a sum of Rs. 14,200 was paid to the Bombay Government towards their maintenance. There are now 56 adults in jail and the majority of the 46 adults, now out of view, will be gradually traced and sent to the Hubli Settlement.

14. *Financial position.*—A sum of Rs. 4,86,000 was allotted to this department during 1922-23 and of this amount the following amounts were for the betterment of depressed classes :—

	Rs.
Free grants	1,25,000
Education charges	1,00,000

In addition to the above a sum of Rs. 3,25,000 was separately provided under 'Loans' for the acquisition of house-sites.

The amounts spent under the above three heads are given below :—

	Rs.
Free grants	1,02,991
Education	87,043
Loans	3,00,857

The entire amounts provided for expenditure during the year under the heads referred to could not be spent as the lines on which this department should conduct its operations were not settled before September 1922.

15. *General.*—The Commissioner wishes to acknowledge the great assistance he has received from Collectors, especially Mr. Bracken and Mr. Tyler of Gōdāvari and Kistna, who have taken special interest in the work among the depressed classes, of Taluk Board Presidents and other non-officials, especially Mr. Timma Reddi of Adōni, who has been particularly fond of getting wells dug for the depressed classes, of Mr. Ramjee Rao and Mr. Ekambara Rao, heads of the depressed classes missions in Masulipatam and Mangalore. Very many Christian missions have also assisted the department in nearly every district. The attention of the Government is also specially invited to the good work of Commissioner Blowers and the other officers of the Salvation Army, especially Captain Robilliard who has made a wonderful advance in Stuartpuram in the last few years. Among the officers working with the department the Commissioner would invite the special attention of Government to the work of Rao Bahadur A. K. Raja Ayyar among the Kallars and of Mr. T. R. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and Mr. Rajam Ayya as District Labour Officers of Tanjore and Gōdāvari.

APPENDIX I.

Statement showing the principal strikes and lock-outs during the year 1922-23.

Serial number, occupation and locality.	Number of men involved.	Date when dispute		Cause or object.	Progress and result.
		Began.	Ended.		
1. Coolies, Weaving Department, Stanes Mill, Coimbatore.	400	1922. 21st March.	1922. 7th April ..	Demand of full pay for the whole period during which they were out of work owing to breakdown of engine.	Three hundred and fifty of the strikers resumed work unconditionally. Forty men were dismissed as they did not turn up for work and 40 new men were appointed.
2. Weavers, Malabar Weaving Company, Cannanore.	15	23rd March.	3rd April ..	Reduction in wages ..	The strikers were replaced by new men on 3rd April 1922.
3. Blacksmiths, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Workshops, Perambur.	700	28th April.	28th April. Lasted for a few hours only.	Alleged assault of a workman by the foreman.	The matter went up to the notice of the Works Manager and on his intervention the men resumed work the same day.
4. Ar. Ar. S. M. Spinning Mills, Madras.	200	1st May ..	3rd May ..	Demand of wages for the five days during which the mills had to be closed on account of the breakdown of engine and for the redress of some of their alleged grievances.	The Management were not willing to grant their demands and were quite firm in their attitude. The men were therefore obliged to surrender unconditionally.
5. Aluminium Works, The Indian Aluminium Company, Madras.	308	17th May ..	5th September.	An all-round increase in wages.	On 30th May 1922 the Management put up a notice giving time to the men up to 1st June 1922 to return to work and warning any man not returning to work on or before that day would be struck off the rolls and would lose that portion of the Provident Fund which was contributed by the Company. This warning had no effect on the men. Outside intervention was of no use. The Management began to take in new hands gradually. At the end of August 1922 two-hundred and twenty-one men were working in the factory including 35 old hands. Since that date 70 more of the old hands were taken and the full strength of the factory was reached on 5th September 1922. The strike thus collapsed.
6. Weavers, Jute Mills, Nellimarla, Vizagapatam district.	200/900	1st June ..	14th June ..	Increase in wages, payment of a bonus and modification of one of the mill rules. Only 200 men of the Weaving Department struck work but the other 900 had to be locked out for want of work.	The men resumed work unconditionally.
7. Iron Foundry, Messrs. C. Gopal Nayagar & Sons' Basin Foundry, Madras.	130	19th June.	20th June ..	For not getting an increase in wages.	The Management promised an increase and the men resumed work the next day.
8. Dhobies, Madura ..	300	2nd August.	14th August.	Their grievances were— (1) Increase of license fees on donkeys and single bullock carts owned by them ; (2) The increase in tolls for unlicensed donkeys ; and (3) The proposed levy of profession tax.	The Collector held a conference on 12th August 1922 at which the representatives of the dhobies were present and they agreed to resume work at once pending reconsideration of their grievances at the meeting of the Municipal Council on 16th August 1922. The Municipal Council at its meeting of 16th August 1922 resolved to exempt all dhobies from payment of animal tax and tolls on donkeys.
9. Railway Workshops, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Arkonam, North Arcot district.	809	Do.	21st August.	The specific demand was that the increased output demanded by the new Engineer-in-charge should not be insisted on. The immediate cause was the dismissal of a smith who refused to increase his output.	The men sent in a written representation to the Agent who promised to reopen the shop only on three conditions, viz :— (1) Removal of undesirable elements. (2) Loss of wages for the strike period. (3) Refixing of wages. The men accordingly resumed work unconditionally on 21st August 1922.
10. Printers, The Scottish Press, Madras. (Including the Branch at the High Court, Madras.)	300	24th August.	30th August.	Refusal of the Management to grant the usual allowances to the compositors and others for July 1922.	The strikers did not resume work on 28th August 1922 according to the notice of the Management and were locked out. They thereupon approached the Chief Justice who promised to interfere and effect a settlement only if and after they resumed work. They accordingly returned to work on 30th August 1922 and the terms of settlement are— (1) Men to be paid their wages on the 7th and their allowances on the 14th of every month ; (2) Men to undertake to clear off arrears by the end of the year. If they did 7,000 pages by November the proprietor to forego the balance ; (3) Overtime after 6 p.m. to be paid at a time and a half ; and (4) Half pay to be given for the strike period.

Statement showing the principal strikes and lock-outs during the year 1922–23—*cont.*

Serial number, occupation and locality.	Number of men involved.	Date when dispute		Cause or object.	Progress and result.
		Began.	Ended.		
11. Tile Works, K. M. Tile Works, Ottapalam, Malabar.	75 men and women.	1922. 2nd October.	1922. 5th October.	Four daily high paid coolies were converted into monthly paid watchmen, etc. First they agreed but subsequently two of them stopped away. These induced the rest of the operatives to stop from work on a misrepresentation.	On 3rd October 1922, some 20 coolies came back and on the 4th and 5th idem all the others resumed work except the ringleaders who were dismissed.
12. Spinning Mills, the Ar. Ar. R. S. M. Spinning Mills, Madras.	384	24th October A.N.	1st November.	Increase of wages on the increased profit anticipated by the men owing to the installation of electric motors.	On the morning of 25th October 1922, the men came in a body to see the Commissioner of Labour when they were advised to return to work. The Commissioner also addressed the Proprietor of the Mills to go into the question of the adequacy of the wages. The men would have gone back in a body but the Management insisted on their signing an agreement that they would not strike work without notice. The men were taken in batches as they signed the agreement. By the end of the month all the men except 20 were thus taken in.
13. Rice Mill, the Nataraja Rice Mill, Tillaivilayam, Tanjore district.	10 coolie workers.	31st October.	1st December.	Dismissal of a driver ..	New men were appointed.
14. Printers, Messrs. Addison & Co., Madras.	200	16th November.	18th November.	To meet the requirements of the new Factories Act the Management gave the men an hour's recess between 1 and 2 p.m. but wanted them to begin work at 8 a.m. instead of at 8-30. This the men refused to do and were locked out.	A satisfactory settlement was however soon arrived at whereby the men agreed to work till 4 p.m. i.e, for two hours more on Saturdays, the daily work commencing at 8-30 a.m. as usual.
15. Moulders, Messrs. C. Gopala Nayagar & Sons Foundry, Madras.	30	14th November A.N.	16th November.	Dismissal of a fellow workman.	Three of the ringleaders were dismissed and the rest were taken back for work on 16th November 1922.
16. Tinkers The Asiatic Petroleum Co., Madras.	30	17th November A.N.	18th November.	Do.	The strikers were dismissed on the 18th idem.
17. Jute Mills, Chittivalasa, Vizagapatam district.	632	5th December.	14th December.	On the 4th December a section of the work people who were coming late and going slow for some time past left the factory 15 minutes before the proper time. On the 5th idem the ringleaders were dismissed and they so intimidated the rest that all the workers struck work.	The closing of the work in one department necessitated the closing of the whole factory. The strike however ended on the 14th December 1922 and the men returned to work unconditionally.
18. Tailors, Army Clothing Factory, Madras.	300	1923. 3rd January.	1923. 3rd January.	The men on contract wages used to come in any time between 7 and 9 a.m. but on 3rd January 1923 the Assistant Officer is said to have badly treated a tailor who came in after 8 a.m. The 300 tailors thereupon struck work.	The matter was soon settled between the Assistant and the men. The men then formally approached the Superintendent for permission to go in for work any time between 7 and 9 a.m., which the Superintendent granted.
19. Scavengers, Vellore Municipality, Vellore.		7th March.	8th March.	Protest against deduction of loan instalments from pay.	The matter was soon settled and the men resumed work after receiving their pay in full.
20. Cartmen and loading coolies, Cocanada, Godavari district.	3,000	8th March..	10th March.	As a protest against the action of the Police in having charged about 20 cartmen for obstruction.	The matter went up to the notice of the local Firms who brought the strike to an amicable end with the co-operation of the Police.
21. Boat coolies, Cocanada, Godavari district.	800	11th March.	14th March.	Increase of wages from 8 to 12 annas.	The men were persuaded to accept a wage of 10 annas.
22. Port coolies and cartmen of Tuticorin, Tinnevelly district.	350	16th March F.N.	16th March A.N.	Increase in wages	The merchants agreed to increase the wages of coolies from 6 to 9 pies per bag and those of the cartmen from 4 to 5 annas per cart for plying to godowns and from 4 to 6 annas to the Railway station. The men were satisfied with this.
23. Boat coolies. Tuticorin, Tinnevelly district.	200	16th March A.N.	17th March F.N.	Similar increase in wages as the Port coolies had.	The contractors agreed to increase the then rate by 6 annas in a month's time. The men were satisfied with this arrangement which was made late at night.

APPENDIX VI.

Statement of lands reserved and assigned to the depressed classes up to the end of the year 1922–23.

Serial number.	Name of the district.	Extent reserved.	Extent assigned.
		ACS.	ACS.
1	Agency	6,928·64	440·78
2	Anantapur	115,022·01	6,370·21
3	North Arcot	41,184·03	3,303·17
4	South Arcot	45,354·37	1,370·92
5	Bellary	23,038·52	2,872·37
6	South Kanara	13,976·26	162·77
7	Chingleput	7,334·27	979·08
8	Chittoor	6,631·78	2,159·11
9	Coimbatore	7,928·88	1,320·19
10	Cuddapah	39,321·86	2,522·38
11	Ganjam	4,181·22	1,969·15
12	Godavari	5,126·30	1,972·62
13	Guntur	48,852·50	16,270·87
14	Kistna	25,917·64	7,856·06
15	Kurnool	52,923·00	5,868·00
16	Madura	19,168·71	3,289·82
17	Nellore	30,604·63	5,494·93
18	The Nilgiris	129·58	27·08
19	Ramnad	1,413·17	266·27
20	Salem	34,999·40	1,142·55
21	Tanjore	6,976·34	88·27
22	Tinnevelly	3,165·70	756·05
23	Trichinopoly	24,100·20	1,073·59
24	Vizagapatam	2,553·80	202·03

APPENDIX VII.

Statement showing the representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of the Madras Presidency.

Name of the local body.	Total number in the Madras Presidency.	Number represented by one depressed class member.	Number represented by two depressed class members.	Number represented by none.
District boards	25	19	2	4
Taluk boards	125	79	..	46
Municipal councils	81	49	4	28

* * * * * *

Order—No. 2496, Law (General), dated 15th October 1923.

Recorded.

2. The Government observe that the labour situation was on the whole quiet during the year.

3. The report shows satisfactory progress in the work for the depressed classes. The special operations of the department have now been extended to the districts of Kistna, Guntur, Bellary, Trichinopoly and South Kanara and a separate District Labour Officer has been appointed for South Arcot; and it is hoped that the results obtained in the new districts will be as good as those achieved in the districts where the department's work is of older standing. There is much room for improvement in the condition of the cheris in the Madras city and the Government note that the Commissioner has succeeded in securing the help and co-operation of several non-official social workers who are interested in the problem.

4. The working of settlements for criminal tribes was satisfactory and especially the real reformation which appears to be taking place among the Kallars.

5. In conclusion the Government congratulate Mr. Paddison on the successful administration of the department during the year and the good work of the officers he names. The Government are grateful to Commissioner Blowers of the Salvation Army and to the other non-official bodies and gentlemen who have contributed to the working of the department.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

R. Ramachandra Rao,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Labour.
,, Development Department.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Judicial Department.
,, Local Self-Government Department.
,, Law (Education) Department.
,, Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
Copy to the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour (with C.L.).
,, Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, Limited.
Editors' Table.

Government of Madras

LAW (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 3348, 27th November 1924

Labour—Labour Department—Administration Report for 1923–24—Recorded with remarks.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter from G. F. PADDISON, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour, to the Secretary to Government, Law (General) Department, dated Chepauk, the 4th September 1924, D. Dis. No. 461/24.

I have the honour to submit herewith the Administration Report of the Labour Department for the year 1923–24.

ENCLOSURE.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1923–24.

1. *Personnel.*—Mr. G. F. Paddison, M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., continued to be the Commissioner of Labour except for three months and twenty-four days during the year. He went on leave for two months and twenty-four days from the 5th July 1923 and was placed on special duty in England for one month after the expiry of the leave to study case law under the English Workmen's Compensation Act. During his absence Mr. H. H. F. M. Tyler, C.I.E., I.C.S., acted as Commissioner.

M.R.Ry. K. Rangaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., the Manager of the office, was appointed Protector of Emigrants, Dhanushkodi, and was relieved on 31st May 1923 to take up his new duties. M.R.Ry. V. B. Duraiswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., Acting Tahsildar of Madras, was appointed to act in his place.

2. *Touring.*—The Commissioner visited during the year the districts of Guntūr, Kistna, Bellary, the Nilgiris, South Kanara, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura. He inspected the Criminal Tribes Settlements at Kavali, Aziznagar, Kulasekharapatnam, Pallavaram, Guntūr and Sitanagaram and the Emigration Camps at Mandapam (Dhanushkodi), Negapatam and Avadi (Madras). He attended the Conference of the United Planters' Association at Bangalore in connexion with the working of the new Factories Act.

3. The activities of the department in regard to the various branches of the work entrusted to it are detailed in the succeeding paragraphs.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT XII OF 1911, AS AMENDED BY ACTS II OF 1922 AND IX OF 1923.

4. A separate report has been submitted to Government on the working of the Act for the year 1923. A considerable advance has been made in the introduction of the new Act. The Commissioner inspected a large number of factories in the course of his tours and found a marked improvement in practically every case, especially as regards fencing of machinery. In certain cases administrative difficulties were experienced in applying the new Act and some important modifications in the Act have been recommended to Government.

LABOUR.

5. *Labour disputes.*—As in the previous year, the labour situation was generally calm. Only thirteen strikes occurred during the year and these were of minor importance.

Of the thirteen strikes that took place, four were in cotton spinning mills, two in jute mills, two in printing presses, one in a cotton ginning press, one in engineering works and three others in miscellaneous works.

In six cases the demands related to pay, in three to bonus and in four to other causes. The strikers were successful in two cases and in others they failed. The strikes lasted for very short periods varying from a few hours to seventeen days. A statement showing the strikes is printed as Appendix I to this report.

6. *Labour unions.*—Various unions showed signs of activity during the year e.g., the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Workshop Union, the Madras Labour Union, the Madras Tramwaymen's Union, the Corporation Scavengers' Union, the South Indian Railway Employees' Union, and the Coimbatore Labour Union. But until the Trade Union Bill is brought into force, it is difficult to see how the unions can be established on a really satisfactory basis. At present the greater number of the unions suffer from lack of regular rules, of proper audit, and only spring into really vital activity when there is a likelihood of a trade dispute. The other and perhaps more important part of Trade Union activities are apt to be lost sight of. It is to be hoped that the Bill will be soon brought in and passed into law. The Madras Provincial Labour Conference was held in Madras in February 1924. Two other Conferences of the South Indian Railway employees and labourers were held in March 1924 in Negapatam as a result of which a long list of their grievances was submitted to the Railway authorities.

7. *The Welfare Committee* of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills is continuing to do excellent work in maintaining cordial relationship between the employers and the employed. His Excellency the Governor, Lord Willingdon, presided on the occasion of its second anniversary held on the 8th February 1924. A similar committee has been constituted in the Government Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu.

8. *Labour Advisory Board.*—Sir James Simpson was re-appointed as member of the Board in the place of Mr. N. M. Murray of the Imperial Bank who resigned. Only one meeting of the Board was held during the year to consider certain amendments to the Factories Act.

9. *Workmen's Compensation Act.*—The rules under the Workmen's Compensation Act have been published by the Government of India and the Local Government.

10. *Working of the Planters' Labour Act and the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act.*—The Government of India have decided to repeal the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act with effect from the 1st April 1926 and at the same time have left the Local Governments to take steps, if they so desire, for the enactment of such a local measure as may be thought necessary for particular areas and particular conditions of employment and the question of a local measure is now under consideration.

11. *Wages Census.*—Statistics have been obtained of the wages paid to the workers in the chief industries of the Presidency in the years 1914 and 1922. The figures are being tabulated and a separate report on the results will be submitted to Government shortly.

12. *Emigration.*—A separate report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, and the rules framed thereunder for the year 1923 was submitted to Government and it does not therefore call for a detailed report.

The Emigration Act, VII of 1922, and the rules issued thereunder came into force on the 5th March 1923 and emigration to the Straits Settlements and Ceylon, hitherto free, came under control from that date. Emigration to other colonies—Natal, Fiji, British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica and Mauritius—was suspended in 1917 and the embargo still continues except in the case of Mauritius to which emigration was resumed under G.O. No. 1449, Law (General), dated 28th May 1923, the numbers being restricted to 1,500 for a year beginning from 31st May 1923. As far as this Presidency is concerned, there have been sailings only for the Straits Settlement and Ceylon.

The special features of the year, apart from the introduction of the new Act, was the failure of the north-east monsoon in the chief recruiting districts which resulted in the large increase of emigration in the cold weather, usually the slack season owing to harvest time. The total number of labourers (emigrants and non-emigrants) sent over to Ceylon from 1st January 1923 to 31st December 1923 was 90,290 and the number returned for the same period was 51,760. Twenty thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine emigrants sailed from the Port of Madras to Malaya during the calendar year 1923 and 14,937 emigrants sailed to Malaya from the port of Negapatam between 5th March 1923 and 31st December 1923.

Those going to Ceylon are chiefly from the southern districts, especially from Trichinopoly (headquarters of the Emigration Commissioner) and from the surrounding districts of Tinnevelly, Madura, Ramnad, Salem, Tanjore and South Arcot. Over one-third of those going to Malaya States are from the North Arcot district, the rest, except about 1,700 from Vizagapatam, the friends of those who formerly went from Cocanada, come from Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Chingleput and South Arcot.

The proportion of the sexes was fairly maintained, about 36 per cent of the emigrants to Ceylon and nearly 26 per cent of those going to Malaya being females.

The number of children under 15 is 12 per cent from Negapatam, 28 per cent from Madras and 32 per cent from Dhanushkodi. The proportion of emigrants going to Malaya a second time is 27 per cent of the total. The figure for Ceylon is probably higher, but accurate figures are not available.

As many as 50 per cent of the emigrants to Ceylon belong to the depressed classes; figures are not available for Malaya.

13. *Labour and Employment Bureau.*—Special efforts are being made as hitherto to assist overseas men, South African repatriates and members of the depressed classes in securing employment.

Two chief difficulties were experienced during the year in this matter. One is that owing to retrenchment, the Government offices, the Madras and Southern Mahratta and South Indian Railways were reducing their staff. The second is that the applicants wanted a higher pay than they could reasonably expect for their qualifications. The results were however successful in several cases.

DEPRESSED CLASSES.

Preliminary.

14. Special staffs in charge of District Labour Officers continued work in the districts of Tanjore, Gōdāvari and Chingleput. As already mentioned to in the previous report, the operations of the department were extended during the year to five new districts, viz., Trichinopoly, Bellary, South Kanara, Kistna and Guntūr and special staffs have been appointed in these districts. In South Arcot, where the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chidambaram, was in charge of the work, a separate District Labour Officer has been appointed. The work of this department is thus carried on with the aid of special staffs in the nine districts of the Presidency against three in the previous year.

House Sites.

15. During the year under review an extent of 200 acres of land was acquired for provision of house-sites at a cost of Rs. 2,23,000. Three thousand six hundred and twenty-five families had the benefit of the acquisition. The total extent of land acquired from the inception of the department up to 31st March 1924 is 781 acres at a cost of about Rs. 7,83,400, and it was distributed to 11,487 families.

By the introduction of the Land Acquisition Amendment Act from the 1st January 1924 a good deal of delay is caused in acquiring house-sites. A sum of Rs. 4,75,000 was originally provided in the budget under "Loans for the aquisition of house-sites", of which a sum of Rs. 75,000 was re-appropriated for loans to Kallar Co-operative Societies. Out of the balance of Rs. 4 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 2,78,000 was spent during the year. The balance of Rs. 1,22,000 could not be spent for the chief reason that in all cases in which notifications under section 6 were published prior to 1st January 1924 proceedings had to be started *de novo* under the provisions of the Amendment Act. The new Act gives much scope to the landowners to delay acquisition proceedings besides adopting their usual tactics of giving notices of suit to the Collectors and of instituting suits in Civil Courts. Besides the provision of house-sites by acquisition of patta lands under the Land Acquisition Act, poramboke lands wherever available have been converted into house-sites in a very large number of cases, especially in the districts of Chingleput, Trichinopoly, Gōdāvari, South Kanara, Kistna and Guntūr.

The work done in the matter of provision of house-sites by acquisition of patta lands or by assignment of poramboke lands in the districts in which special staffs are working is given below.

16. *Tanjore district.*—The total extent of land acquired during the year under report is 75 acres at a cost of Rs. 65,845 against 62 acres at a cost of Rs. 57,207 in the previous year. One thousand one hundred and six sites were aligned in the plots acquired. Preliminary deposits, amounting to Rs. 35,504, were collected during the year. The total extent of land acquired for house-sites, from the beginning of the department to the end of 31st March 1924 is 413 acres, costing Rs. 3,61,084, and the number of sites aligned is 4,476. Seventy-five cases of acquisition, covering 58 acres of land, are in various stages of progress. Besides these, preliminary proposals have been received in 53 cases. Orders regarding acquisition of house-sites for fishermen and chucklers and for continuing the acquisition work in municipal areas also have been issued recently and action has been taken in such cases. A preliminary proposal has since been received for providing quarters for fishermen at Papakoil in Negapatam taluk. More cases of acquisition for these men will be taken up during the current official year.

At the beginning of the year under report there were four civil suits pending against acquisition proceedings. Nine suits were instituted during the year, thus making a total of 13. Two suits were decided in favour of Government and the remaining eleven are still pending. Temporary injunction was granted in seven cases but was dismissed with costs on appeal in the Sub-Court, Kumbakonam. The original trial of these suits has yet to be gone through. Reference was made in paragraph 11 of the last administration report regarding the decree against Government in O.S. No. 41 of 1921 on the file of the District Munsif's Court, Valangiman, and its bad effect on the acquisition work of this department in Kumbakonam and other taluks. An appeal was preferred to the Sub-Court, Kumbakonam, which reversed the decree of the Lower Court and dismissed the plaintiff's suit with costs. It is understood that the plaintiff is appealing to the High Court against the order of the Sub-Judge.

Forty-three petitions were pending inquiry in both the District Courts at Tanjore and Negapatam against the award by the District Labour Officer. During the year under reference 16 petitions were filed. Out of 47 cases disposed of during the year the amount of compensation awarded was confirmed in 29 cases and in the remaining cases the amounts were enhanced by the District Courts.

In five villages an extent of 6·28 acres of unnecessary poramboke lands has been proposed for assignment under house-site rules to members of the depressed classes and other labourers needing houses. The transfer in three cases has been sanctioned by the Collector.

17. *Gōdāvari district.*—Sixty cases of acquisition of land for house-sites involving an extent of 64·06 acres were dealt with by the District Labour Officer during the year in 37 villages in Amalapur and Razole taluks. The cost of acquisition amounted to Rs. 87,427-4-5. One thousand four hundred and four sites were aligned in the plots acquired. In addition to this 16 sites were aligned in a case of acquisition of 54 cents of land by grant of land in exchange. A sum of Rs. 1,841 was paid on account of enhanced compensation, law charges and pleader's fees in connexion with land acquisition cases referred under sections 18 and 32 of the Act. At the end of the year 44 cases of acquisition covering 28·10 acres to form 591 house-sites were in various stages of progress.

Sixty-nine acres of unnecessary porambokes, mostly puntas in villages of the Razole and Amalapur taluks, were transferred to the head of village-site and formed into 2,601 house-sites mostly for Adi-Andhras. Besides this, proposals for the conversion and grant of nearly 20 acres for about 600 house-sites were made ready and were under scrutiny at the end of the year. These sites are all assigned free of assessment. A special condition is inserted in the pattas that the sites should be vacated without compensation whenever required for any Government or local board purpose One hundred and eighty-six house-sites were granted in 26·83 acres of lanka land in two villages on payment of the block dry rate of the village. In all, house-sites were distributed to 1,577 families during the year.

18. *Chingleput district.*—During the year, cheris were extended in 95 villages and 249·35 acres of poramboke lands were transferred to cheri sites by the Collector. 80·74 acres have been assigned to 1,042 families. There was acquisition of patta land to the extent of 2·20 acres in three villages involving a cost of Rs. 2,453-10-4

and the land was assigned to 48 individuals. It is only in villages where porambokе sites acceptable to the Adi-Dravidas are not available that efforts have been made to acquire patta lands. Such porambokes are available in much larger quantities in a dry district like Chingleput than in the deltas and acquisition has not therefore been found necessary in so many cases.

19. *South Arcot district.*—Forty-two awards were passed during the year covering a total extent of 40 acres at an aggregate cost of Rs. 36,557. This includes an extent of 4·44 acres of land acquired for school-sites, well-sites, pathways, etc., at a cost of Rs. 3,186. The rest of the acquisition was for the provision of about 605 house-sites in 35 villages.

The amount of deposits received from applicants for house-sites during the year was Rs. 12,098 and including the amount received during previous years the total comes to Rs. 37,747. There was a steady flow of deposits throughout the year indicating a keen demand for sites. Besides the above, an extent of 28 acres of Government land (in existing nathams as well as unnecessary porambokes) was assigned for house-sites during the year. Including the extent assigned during previous years the total extent comes to 34 acres.

20. *Trichinopoly district.*—The Adi-Dravidas in this district unlike in Tanjore have almost all of them got saleable interest in the sites on which their houses stand and so the question of acquisition of the sites on which they live does not arise in this district as in Tanjore. However, several applications were received during the year for assignment of Government land. Of these, 140 applications, involving an extent of 5 acres, were complied with during the year while some others are pending inquiry.

An extent of 29 acres of patta land in ten different villages at a cost of Rs. 12,480 was proposed during the year to be acquired on behalf of the Adi-Dravidas living in congested cheris. This includes one case of acquisition for the benefit of caste labourers.

21. *Kistna district.*—During the year a total extent of 17 acres was acquired at a cost of Rs. 18,430 for providing house-sites to 359 persons. It was only after the harvesting season (i.e., in the month of December) when the labourers are usually paid their wages that the deposits were collected.

Out of the disafforested portion of S. No. 3824 of Block No. 82 of Bezwada town an extent of 5 acres was placed at the disposal of the Labour Department for assignment to deserving members of the depressed classes. After getting the land cleared, it was assigned to 115 persons with whom a co-operative building society was formed. The society is awaiting registration.

In Lakshmipalem, hamlet of Illapakarru of Narasapur taluk, an extent of 10 acres of lanka land was converted to village-sites and was assigned to 146 persons.

Small extents aggregating 2·93 acres were converted to village-sites in Gudivada taluk and 66 sites were provided. During the year the Taluk Board, Gudivada, consented to the conversion of 5·30 acres of unobjectionable poramboke lands to village sites in five villages.

22. *Guntūr district.*—A total extent of 7·35 acres, costing Rs. 17,195, was acquired during the year both by private negotiation and by taking recourse to the Land Acquisition Act, and it was aligned into 146 house-sites.

An extent of 0·52 acre of patta dry land was purchased by grant in exchange for an equal extent of unnecessary Government land. This was aligned into 17 house-sites for the Adi-Andhras.

In 31 villages, an extent of 34·40 acres of unnecessary Government land was converted into village-sites, of which 32·21 acres were formed into 651 houses-sites and 26 plots for schools and wells. Of the 651 house-sites, 259 were for Adi-Andhras and 322 for other depressed classes and caste labourers. Besides, an extent of 5·24 acres in 15 villages was ordered to be granted to 132 persons mostly Adi-Andhras.

During his tour in the Guntūr district in April 1923 the Commissioner inspected, Itanagarapalayam, in Tenali, in company with the Chairman of the Tenali Municipality and the Revenue Divisional Officer, and found that the hamlet was very much congested and that a very large number of people who had no place to live were squatting on ryots' lands or on porambokes unauthorizedly. To relieve congestion

and house the homeless people, an extent of 3·42 acres was acquired at a cost of Rs. 9,400 and a sum of Rs. 5,400 was also sanctioned for raising the level of the site acquired and for making roads.

23. *Bellary district.*—In almost all the villages investigated so far, ample village-sites were available for future construction of houses. In some isolated cases where a few houses were built upon patta lands of caste people, earnest attempts were made to approach the pattadars who were generous enough to relinquish free of cost in favour of the depressed classes portions of the sites required.

24. *South Kanara district.*—During the year 692 families were provided with house sites involving an aggregate extent of 244 acres. Formal orders of assignment have not yet been passed pending decision of the question of empowering the District Labour Officer with powers of assignment under Board's Standing Orders Nos. 15 and 21.

Co-operation.

25. Two hundred and thirty-three co-operative societies were organized during the year and including 416 already in existence at the beginning of the year, the total number of societies on 31st March 1924 was 649. The activities of the societies are mainly confined to the following items of work :—

(1) Provision of house-sites,

(2) distribution of loans for agricultural purposes such as purchase of cattle, seeds, manure, etc. ;

(3) taking up of lands on darkhast or on lease and provision of capital for reclaiming lands so as to make them fit for cultivation ;

(4) joint purchase and sale of provision stores, etc.

The most gratifying feature of these societies is that as a result of the intensive supervision exercised by the officers of this department they are repaying their loans with the utmost rapidity and regularity. In Tanjore district alone house-sites costing Rs. 3,61,084 were acquired up to the end of March 1924 and granted to these societies. A sum of Rs. 1,63,547 which includes a payment of Rs. 15,279 on account of future instalments has been repaid to Government and the principal amount overdue on 31st March 1924 was only Rs. 197. Again the Adi-Andhra Co-operative Societies, which have taken up the lease of lankas in Godavari and Kistna districts were, at the instance of the Commissioner of Labour and his personal guarantee of intensive supervision, granted loans amounting to Rs. 33,040 by the Christian Central Co-operative Bank, Madras. The societies have repaid a sum of Rs. 3,796 and the balance overdue was nil on the 31st March 1924, a condition which puts these societies above all the co-operative clients of the lending bank.

An account of the societies organized in the several districts is given in the succeeding paragraphs.

26. *Tanjore district.*—There were 202 societies at the beginning of the year and 75 societies were added during the year, making a total of 277 at the end of the year as detailed below :—

(1) Societies for the acquisition of house-sites	242
(2) Credit societies	27
(3) Societies for assignment and for lease	6
(4) Trading unions	2
Total	277

The societies organized for the purpose of affording credit facilities to the members were financed hitherto by the Central Banking Union, Limited, Tanjore. Since last year the Madras Christian Bank is advancing money to the Field Labourers' Co-operative Societies. Loans to the extent of Rs. 6,795 were obtained from this bank.

In the taluks of Tanjore, Mannargudi, Tiruturaipundi, Pattukottai, Arantangi and Negapatam large areas have been reserved for assignment to the depressed classes. To cultivate the lands on a co-operative basis a society has been organized and registered in the village of Adanur in Mannargudi taluk, where the honorary Assistant Registrar of Nidamangalam, M.R.Ry. Rai Sahib A. Sethurama Ayyar has kindly undertaken to supervise and work this society. Such societies could be organized only in villages where it would be possible to secure

men who would be able to make constant and effective supervision. In other villages where smaller blocks have been reserved, the plot will be subdivided and assigned to the individual members and they will be given financial help if they apply. It is only by adopting such measures and giving the Adi-Dravidas help it would be possible to make the lands fit for cultivation. It is proposed to organize a large number of such societies in the course of this year if the existing societies work successfully.

In this district there are very large areas of lands belonging to mutts, devastanams, estates, chatrams and other private endowments which are leased on very favourable terms to outsiders from Tinnevelly and other districts, who cultivate the lands with the aid of the local Adi-Dravidas, pay them the usual wages and derive very large profits. It is proposed to get these lands leased direct to the Adi-Dravidas who work on the land, so that they might derive the profit which would otherwise go to the middlemen from other districts. The District Labour Officer tried to induce the trustees of lands belonging to the temples and he has been successful in getting a promise from a trustee in Nannilam taluk and a society has been organized in the village of Seruppuliyur recently. He has also received an offer of nine velis of land in the village of Arasur in Nannilam taluk and another offer in Karuppur in Kumbakonam taluk. It is hoped that before the beginning of the next cultivation season, he would be able to secure more lands for cultivation by the Adi-Dravidas. The owners apprehend however that by giving the lands on lease to the Adi-Dravidas they would be risking their income on men without any status or property but it is hoped that in the long run this fear will vanish when they discover the extraordinary power of the co-operative spirit as evinced by the repayment of Government loans for house-sites.

About 70 acres of land are available in the Vennar Padugai, Togur village, for being leased out to the Adi-Dravidas of the village. The Collector's sanction to let out the lease for a period of three years was obtained. After ascertaining the wishes of the members of the co-operative society the District Labour Officer has submitted his recommendations to the Collector about the terms of the lease and also to extend the period of lease to five years.

Padugai lands are being leased out by the Public Works Department every year and it was proposed to get these lands in favour of the field labourers' co-operative societies so that the Adi-Dravidas might cultivate the lands and be benefited thereby especially when they are boycotted by the mirasidars for having applied for house-sites. The terms of the co-operative society have been obtained and as soon as the Public Works Department authorities agree to the terms the leases will be obtained for the co-operative societies.

Building societies.—In G.O. No. 512, Development, dated 11th April 1923, Government offered financial assistance to co-operative building societies organized for the benefit of poor and middle classes in urban areas. The Government have been addressed on the subject for extending the concession to the field labourers' co-operative societies in rural areas also as these Adi-Dravidas are as much in need of such assistance as the poorer classes in urban areas. The matter is now under the consideration of Government. If the proposal is approved, loans will be given to members of co-operative societies who have discharged their dues to Government in respect of loan for house-sites.

Co-operative bone collection.—The skin merchants who get skins through brokers or directly from the Adi-Dravidas impose a condition that they should give them the bones at a cheap rate. As there is no other demand for bones, the Adi-Dravidas have to sell the bones at a cheap price. The skin merchants sell the bones thus collected at double the price to several big firms who are able to crush them and sell them at a large profit. In order to secure to the Adi-Dravidas better income, the co-operative societies are being asked to collect bones and supply them direct to the Manure Company at Nidamangalam which has a bone crusher. With reference to this scheme, the Collector observes "if it is found on experience that a large collection of bones could be made it would be worth while to consider whether it would not be desirable to start separate organizations for the purpose in order that Adi-Dravidas might derive the full benefit." This will form the subject of a separate correspondence after seeing the actual working of bone collection by the societies.

Trading unions.—The trading union which was at Michaelpatti was transferred to Tirukattupalli. During last Dipavali season the union purchased cloth for about

Rs. 1,000 and sold to members as well as non-members. The Tanjore Trading Union, besides dealing in provision stores, prints and stocks account books required by co-operative societies. All the requirements of the co-operative societies of this department in Tanjore were obtained from this union.

27. *Gōdāvari district.*—The total number of societies working at the beginning of the year was 166. Fourteen societies were organized and registered during the year so that the total number of societies at the end of the year was 180. Forty-nine societies are on probation and are awaiting registration. Loans to the extent of Rs. 18,525 were obtained during the year from the Christian Central Co-operative Bank at Madras at the instance of the Commissioner of Labour and on his personal guarantee of intensive supervision. In all, 71 societies got loans amounting to Rs. 33,040 of which Rs. 3,796 were repaid. Not a single pie of instalment was overdue on 31st March 1924.

28. *Chingleput district.*—During the year 35 societies have been organized and 2 societies were liquidated as the members were not willing to work up the societies. There were altogether 68 societies under the supervision of the department in the district at the end of the year. On the considered recommendations of the District Labour Officer, twelve societies borrowed from the Christian Central Co-operative Bank during the year loans amounting to Rs. 4,290. Two hundred and eighty members had the benefit of the borrowings and at the end of the year none of the societies had any overdue balance to be repaid.

29. *South Arcot district.*—The total number of co-operative societies that have been organized in Chidambaram taluk in 1921–22 and 1922–23 was 23. The number of societies organized during the year under report was 64, thus making up a total of 87 societies. The Adi-Dravidas have been of late very enthusiastic in forming societies even in villages where there is no acquisition work to do. In one case, loan has been obtained from the Christian Central Bank and is being repaid regularly. On account of the rapid progress made in this direction three more Co-operative Inspectors were appointed during the year, thus making up a total of four Co-operative Inspectors working in the district. The societies are working very satisfactorily and it is hoped to utilize them to the best advantage in coming years by introducing the system of joint purchases and sales.

30. *Trichinopoly district.*—Co-operation in this district has so far made little headway. As a rule housing societies are not wanted and propaganda is necessary to make the Adi-Dravidas appreciate the benefits of an ordinary co-operation and thrift society. Better progress is expected hereafter.

31. *South Kanara district.*—Seventeen co-operative credit societies exclusively for the Adi-Dravidas were organized during the year under report, with a share capital of Rs. 17,000 out of which nine have been registered with a membership of 260, and eight are pending registration with the Assistant Registrar of Co operative Societies, South Kanara. The societies were originally registered on the limited liability basis. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras, subsequently ordered that the societies should be converted into those of unlimited liability. This question is still under consideration.

32. *Bellary district.*—Six societies were organized during the year and their total strength is 141 members. Loans to the extent of Rs. 7,315 were obtained from the Madras Christian Central Bank, Limited. One more society was organized but it is awaiting registration.

33. *Kistna district.*—Ten field labourers' credit societies were started in Divi taluk and these are working well. Loans to the extent of Rs. 6,000 were given to the members who spent them in manuring and otherwise improving the lands granted to them by Government. These societies have already repaid more than double the instalments due for this year and the money has been spent to admirable purposes. Most of these lands yielded good crops as a result of the repairs done to them. Six societies in Narasapur taluk and two societies in Tanuku taluk were started for leasing Godavari Lankas at concession rates without public auction. The total extent leased out to these societies is 737 acres.

Two Field Labourers' Societies of Gudivada taluk were registered during the year. The proposal of the Assistant Registrar, Bezwada, to transfer 28 Field Labourers' Societies of Kaikalur, Gudivada, Ellore, Ernagudem and Nandigama taluks was approved by the Commissioner and these will be taken charge of shortly.

34. *Guntur district.*—Fourteen societies were organized in this district. Twelve societies organized and registered by the Co-operative department in Tenali and Repalli taluks were transferred to this department. In the beginning of the year the District Labour Officer rendered assistance to the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies in the organization of sixteen Lanka societies in three taluks.

Education.

35. There were 317 labour schools at the beginning of the year. One hundred and seventy-seven schools were started during the year and the total number of schools on 31st March 1924 was 494. As already stated, more schools could have been started but for the operations of the Government Order putting a stop to the educational activities of the department for some months during the year. Of the 494 schools, 398 are day schools, 39 night schools and 57 combined day and night schools. Four hundred and seventy-three teachers are employed in these schools, of whom 158 are trained and 315 are untrained. The untrained teachers are gradually being replaced by trained ones and such of the untrained men as are likely to make good teachers are sent up for training. The total number of pupils attending these schools are 14,494 of whom 1,608 are girls.

A statement showing the number of schools, teachers, etc., under the control of this department is enclosed (Appendix II).

Forty-eight school sheds were newly erected, 20 old ones were repaired during the year at a cost of Rs. 11,215-4-7. Many schools were supplied with furniture, books, slates, etc., costing Rs. 15,750-5-4.

Out of the allotment of Rs. 1,57,500 provided for educational charges for depressed classes, a sum of Rs. 1,40,400 was spent during the year.

More schools would have been started and more school sheds constructed but for the orders of Government firstly directing the Commissioner not to go forward with any independent schemes relating to the education of the depressed classes and subsequently prescribing changes in the procedure of starting schools.

The labour schools are supervised by the District Labour Officers and also by Special Deputy Tahsildars, Labour Overseers and Special Co-operative Inspectors during their tours. In Tanjore and Gōdāvari the question of appointing Superintendents of Schools is under consideration.

Owing to the existence of numerous mission schools in the cheris in Guntūr district, only 7 labour schools for Adi-Andhras were opened during the year.

In Tanjore district a type-design for the construction of a dwelling house for schoolmasters was approved by the Commissioner and it is now proposed to construct a model house for the schoolmaster at Thatangudi village, Mayavaram taluk. After its inspection by him other houses will be constructed during the year in places where there is sufficient space both for the school and schoolmasters' quarters.

An Educational exhibition was held by the educational authorities in Tanjore district from 13th to 16th February 1924 in which most of the labour school teachers in the district took part and exhibited articles such as mats, embroidery work, clay modelling, paper cutting, baskets, etc. Vocational training such as mat-weaving and basket-making are taught at the labour schools at Achanur, Amur and Maganampet. Weaving is taught in the Adi-Dravida school at Pattukkōttai which is at present managed by the Tamil Sangam and it is proposed to take over the school under the management of the Labour department instead of merely making a grant for the pay of Weaving Instructor in the school as the Sangam which is managing the school is not able to provide funds for the Weaving Instructor.

36. *Scholarships and fee remissions.*—An important feature in this year's administration is the grant of scholarships in educational institutions. On the recommendation of the Commissioner Government have sanctioned the grant of scholarships and fee remissions as detailed below :—

Scholarships.

Class or form in which tenable.	Number.	Rate per mensem. Rs.	A.	P.
IV Class or standard ...	120	2	8	0
V do. ...	80	3	0	0
I Form	60	3	8	0
II Form	40	3	8	0
III Form	30	3	8	0
IV Form	20	5	0	0
V Form	20	6	0	0
VI Form	20	7	0	0
Commercial subjects ...	10	4	0	0

Fee remissions.

Form in which tenable.	Number.	Form in which tenable.	Number.
I Form	40	IV Form	15
II Form	30	V Form	15
III Form	20	VI Form	15

A district-war statement showing the scholarships actually sanctioned and utilized is appended (Appendix III). As the orders of Government were received late in the year, the number of scholarships sanctioned was not fully utilized. The fee remissions sanctioned by Government were not granted to the pupils as it was found unnecessary to pay the pupils on that account, a lump sum grant in addition to the large lump amount paid as scholarships (the scholarship was sanctioned from 1st July 1923) long after the school fees were paid by the pupils.

37. *Industrial scholarships.*—The proposal to grant scholarships to depressed classes pupils learning arts and crafts and other industrial subjects is still under consideration of Government.

38. *Cottage industry.*—A sum of Rs. 1,404 was granted to Miss Marian Slingfellow of the London Mission, Kamalapuram, Cuddapah district, towards the grant of twenty scholarships to women of the depressed classes to receive instructions in the cottage industry run on by her.

39. *Hostel at Madras.*—The opening at Madras of a hostel for depressed classes pupils of the city and mufassal districts is another important feature in this year's administration. The hostel is under the control and supervision of the Commissioner of Labour who is assisted by an Advisory Committee consisting of the following gentlemen :—

(1) M.R.Ry. C. Ramaswami Ayyangar Avargal.
(2) ,, N. Siva Raj Avargal.
(3) ,, Rao Bahadur T. Varadarajulu Nayudu Garu.
(4) ,, Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja Avargal.
(5) ,, Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar.

The sanctioned strength of the hostel was 40 and only 32, mostly students from the schools in this City were selected and the hostel started on 1st December 1923. The classes in which the selected students were studying are noted below :—

School of Arts	4	III Form	2
Medical school	1	II Form	5
B A.	1	I Form	8
Intermediate	2		
VI Form	1	Total ...	32
IV Form	8		

It was thought inadvisable to disturb the course of the mufassal students in the middle of a term and their selection was thus deferred for the next year. The actual expenditure incurred on account of the hostel during the year was Rs. 3,764-1-2.

40. *Boarding grants.*—During the year the Taluk Board, Nandyal, Kurnool district, opened a free boarding house for the Adi-Andhra children attached to the elementary school at Atmakur. A sum of Rs. 2,775 for the boarding house and Rs. 650 for the carpentry section attached to the elementary school was sanctioned as half grants from the funds of this department. The strength of the institution was 36 and it has done good work during the year.

A sum of Rs. 3,580 was drawn during the year towards the boarding grants for the children of Vaduwarpatti Koravas, Ramnad district.

41. *Training of fishermen teachers.*—Proposals to train six teachers in each of the first two years' ordinary course and third year special course at Calicut have been submitted to Government and provision has also been made in the Budget for 1924-25 to meet the cost. The orders of Government are awaited.

Water-supply.

42. One hundred and fifty-three new wells were constructed during the year under the supervision of the District Labour Officers. One hundred and forty-nine old wells and five tanks were repaired and 77 wells were under construction. Many of

these wells were provided with necessary platforms. The amount spent for these wells during the year was Rs. 68,534–14–7 as detailed below :—

Name of district.	Nature of work.	Amount spent. RS.	A.	P.
Tanjore	33 new wells, repair to one old well and provision of platform for 43 wells.	10,065	2	5
Godavari	66 new wells and repairs to three tanks.	9,128	0	0
Chingleput ...	23 wells completed and 20 wells partly sunk.	14,853	0	0
South Arcot ...	Eight wells	2,190	0	0
Trichinopoly ...	Seven new wells and repairs to 112 old wells.	13,324	14	0
South Kanara ...	14 wells under progress	1,414	12	5
Kistna	Four wells completed and 38 wells under progress.	3,943	5	0
Bellary	Eight new wells and repairs to 25 wells.	8,073	3	9
Guntur	Four new wells and repairs to 11 old wells and two tanks.	5,542	9	0
		68,534	14	7

Grants to the extent of Rs. 67,775 as shown below were made for the construction of new wells, and repairs to old wells to Collectors, local boards and municipalities chiefly in the other districts of the Presidency in which the special operations of department are not carried on :—

Grants to whom made.	Number of well works.	Amount. RS.	A.	P.	Remarks.
Kurnool district—					
Local boards	21	10,988	0	0	Grant for 11 new wells and completion of 10 wells left incomplete last year for Malas and Madigas.
Bellary district—					
Local boards	34	19,128	0	0	.....
Anantapur district—					
Collector and local boards. ...	20	7,550	0	0	.....
Salem district—					
Collector	6	1,967	0	0	.....
South Kanara district—					
Collector and President, District Board	4	2,865	0	0	For completion of well works and repairs to old wells.
North Arcot district—					
Local boards and Revenue Divisional officer, Tiruvannamalai.	45	16,340	0	0	For well works left incomplete last year. New well works and repairs to old wells.
Guntur district—					
Collector	1	1,250	0	0	.....
Nellore district—					
President, Taluk Board, Kavali.	6	2,092	0	0	For completion of works sanctioned in 1922–23.
Madura district—					
President, Taluk Board, Usilampatti, etc.	2	4,850	0	0	.....
Tinnevelly district—					
Municipal Council, Palamcottah.	1	745	0	0	.....
		67,775	0	0	

Communication, Burial-grounds, Etc.

43. Pathways, bridges, etc., were provided in 31 cases at a cost of Rs. 7,156-6-10 The largest number was in Godavari district where 17 Adi-Andhra and fisherman hamlets amidst creeks at the mouth of the Godavari river were provided with means of communication to public roads, burial-grounds, wells, etc. Besides the above a sum of Rs. 1,669-5-7 was placed at the disposal of the Collector. North Arcot. for the provision of a cart-track and a road.

Several other cases of acquisition for pathways, etc., were in various stages of progress during the year.

44. *Burial-grounds.*—In Bellary and Trichinopoly districts burial-grounds were provided in 17 cases by transferring poramboke lands. Some pattadars in Bellary district were kind enough to relinquish their patta lands for provision of burial-grounds to depressed classes. In Trichinopoly district acquisition of patta lands was proposed in ten cases of which one case was actually completed at a cost of Rs. 49.

Out of the allotment of Rs. 1,87,500 provided for under 'Free grants for the betterment of the depressed classes', a sum of Rs. 1,44,419 was spent during the year. The balance could not be drawn as payments were not made for several works which were incomplete at the end of the year

Assignment of land for cultivation.

45. Quarterly statements showing the extent of land reserved and assigned for the depressed classes are received from Collectors. Appendix IV shows the progress made in the matter up to 31st March 1924. Some of the most important cases of assignment are detailed below :—

An extent of 2,173 acres of disafforested land in Pudur, Kollangarai and Naduvur villages of the Tanjore district is available for assignment. As soon as the final survey records are handed over to the revenue authorities a scheme for the reclamation of this large area of land by joint cultivation on a co-operative basis will be worked out.

An extent of 4,297 acres of lanka land in 38 villages of the Gōdāvari district with an annual rental of Rs. 59,203 was newly leased out during the year to Adi-Andhra co-operative societies. The total area under lease to the Adi-Andhras is about 9,600 acres bearing an annual rental of Rs. 1,39,500. Co-operative societies in 74 villages hold these leases. The lands are very rich, require no manure, and not much working. They are therefore ideally suited for the depressed classes and the work done has been extraordinarily successful. Some of these suffered from last year's cyclone, but there is no doubt that this work should be extended in all the delta districts. Two thousand and four hundred and forty acres of waste land in Mallavaram and Kallijolla upland villages of Rajahmundry taluk, Gōdāvari district, were subdivided into plots of 5 acres each and granted to individual applicants under the supervision of the Sub Collector, Rajahmundry. Two thousand and two hundred and fifty-two acres of forest reserve in Kandikuppa in the mouth of the Gōdāvari were leased out at the instance of the Forest department to four fishermen panchayats and 878 acres of unused porambokes in Razole, Amalapur and Ramachandrapur taluks were given on lease to Adi-Andhra and fishermen co-operative societies.

Two Deputy Surveyors were specially appointed in the Chingleput district to survey the disafforested lands available for assignment to the depressed classes. They were employed in surveying Pulrambakkam and Vembedu reserve forests. An extent of 1,135 acres of land was assigned to the Adi-Dravidas for cultivation at one acre per head.

In connexion with the assignment of 1,112 acres of land to the depressed classes in Divi Island, Kistna district, the Commissioner visited the Island in April 1923 and inspected the lands for four days. These lands have been assigned to the members of the depressed classes who formed themselves into Co-operative societies. To enable the co-operative societies to raise credit, Government have directed that suitable modifications in the patta be made by which the lands assigned to the members are made alienable to the co-operative societies composed of them. As most of the lands assigned to the depressed classes under the scheme

required some outlay to bring them under cultivation, and money was also needed for buying cattle and manure, a sum of Rs. 6,000 was placed at the disposal of the District Labour Officer, Kistna, for the grant of small loans to field labourers' co-operative societies in some selected villages in the Divi Island, the loans being recoverable within a period of three years with a chance of renewal for an extra year.

The lands assigned to the depressed classes in Talagada, Divi, Burrankula and other villages in the district were mostly tail-end lands which required washing to get rid of the salt. At the instance of the Commissioner, the Superintending Engineer, Bezwada, was kind enough to issue instructions to his Engineers in the Divi Islands to provide water whenever available and as early as possible for the first two years by which time they should be in a position to hold their own with the other ordinary lands.

An extent of 284 acres of disafforested Kolkalur Reserve was assigned to a co-operative society of the depressed classes in the Guntūr district. Another extent of 1,520 acres of lanka lands in 15 villages in the district was leased out to 13 co-operative societies of the depressed classes through miscellaneous agencies and the distribution made with the assistance of the labour staff.

At the instance of the District Labour Officer, Bellary, M.R.Ry. Payyamula Narayanappa Garu a rich landlord has relinquished in favour of the Adi-Andhras two of his patta fields measuring 61·83 acres. Such practical philanthropy is specially welcome.

Madras cheris.

46. Commissioner inspected the undermentioned cheris in the city and noted the needs in his inspection notes :—

(1) Nallan cheri.
(2) Beer cheri.
(3) Vannan cheri.
(4) Theruvidiyan cheri.
(5) Demroute cheri.
(6) Kattukoil cheri.
(7) Ellapada Madakoil cheri.
(8) Bishop's garden cheri.
(9) Kirai cheri.
(10) Chettithottam cheri.
(11) Veeran cheri.
(12) Mottu cheri.
(13) Malappu cheri.

Swami Naicken cheri in Purasawakam, the acquisition of which by Government is still pending decision of an appeal before the High Court was also inspected by the Commissioner in connexion with an estimate for effecting sanitary improvements in the cheri. The Kaliman cheri behind the Smith's shop was inspected and a case of objectionable construction of a house preventing free access of air and light to certain Adi-Dravida tenements was taken to the notice of the Commissioner of Corporation of Madras. Four plots of land of the Mylapore tank included in the Mambalam town-planning scheme and a plot of land in the Nungambakkam tank waterspread were inspected in view to provide house-sites for Adi-Dravidas and relieve congestion in certain cheris. The question of alienating the plots to this department is under correspondence with the Town Planning Trust. Commissioner inspected Karayarkuppam, a fishermen hamlet in Kasimodu, Rayapuram, which was, at times, subject to inundations from the sea thereby causing damages to the fishermen hamlets. After some correspondence the Commissioner of the Corporation has granted to these men on lease another site for their habitation in exchange for the one in which they were formerly living and which was gradually being eroded by the sea.

The Commissioner inspected the fishermen hamlets at Nochikuppam and Parthasarathi kuppam where fire broke out in order to afford relief to the sufferers. In Nochikuppam roofing materials to the value of Rs. 195 were purchased and distributed to the sufferers. The cost was met from the allotment under 'free grants.' In Parthasarathi kuppam the cost of materials was met by the Corporation and the purchase and distribution of the materials were made by this department.

Provision was made in the current year's budget for the appointment of a 'Labour Officer' for the Madras City to investigate into the needs of the cheris and to carry out ameliorative work in them.

47. *The Refugees' Camp at Vyasarpadi.*—The application for building site in R.S. No. 2347/2 of Purasawakam was unsuccessful and consequently, another site

had to be found. To this end, Commissioner inspected a number of sites in the City and finally selected R.S. Nos. 1761/1 and 1761/3 of Perambur and R.S. No. 135/1 of Vepery which are military lands and 114/3, 5, 7 and 9 of Perambur belonging to the Revenue Department. The question of transferring the military lands to this department is still under correspondence with Government. The lands of the Revenue Department have been handed over to this department only a few days ago. The whole scheme for the construction of houses for the refugees has been held up partly owing to the difficulty in securing a site, and partly because there was no one to supervise the work. Arrangements have been made to put on hand very shortly the construction of houses for about 35 families in the refugees' camp on the lands that have been taken over from the Revenue Department.

Representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of the Madras Presidency.

48. A statement showing the representation of depressed classes in the local boards and municipal councils will be found in Appendix V. All District Boards have at least one member of the depressed classes. Out of 126 taluk boards only 75 are represented by one member and in the remaining 51 there are no depressed classes members. Out of 80 municipal councils 52 have at least one member of the depressed classes and the remaining 28 have none. The position is almost the same as in last year and it is hoped that all local bodies that are not represented by members of depressed classes will have such members duly nominated at the next vacancy. There is reason to fear that the depressed classes are even less fully represented on union boards and the question of reserving some seats for nomination is under consideration.

KALLARS.

49. A separate report on the reclamation of Kallars for the calendar year 1923 has been submitted to Government. There is nothing further to be mentioned except reiterating what was already mentioned in the forwarding remarks of the Commissioner on the separate report. Mr. Raja Ayyar's work has made wonderful progress. There were 300 schools and 138 co-operative societies working at the end of the year. The most notable feature is the way in which he is inducing the Kallars to work out for their salvation. He is teaching them thrift; the old co-operative societies taken over from the Madura Bank were to all appearances hopelessly bankrupt, yet they have not only paid up the first instalment of their old debts in full but are well in advance of what they agreed to pay. The new societies which he has formed have taken short-term loans and have distributed them among their members on the right lines giving only when there was a real need for bullocks, for seed and for other such purposes, and these short-term loans are also being repaid with the greatest regularity and punctuality. He has also induced the women to take a keen interest in this work. Wells are springing up everywhere on money distributed under the Agricultural Loans Act by a very energetic Deputy Tahsildar Mr. Ahmed Khan and the result in this bad season has been extraordinarily good. Schools are being established in nearly every village and substantial school buildings are being raised with the help of the Kallars themselves nominally at Government cost, but really costing very much more owing to the Kallar contributions in labour and in kind. New roads are being built to make the villages accessible. Lands are being given where available. Excellent work is also being done among the Adi-Dravidas in supplying them with wells and other amenities.

During the year under report the Kallar Maha Sangam, Tanjore, drew up a scheme regarding the reclamation of Kallars of that district on lines similar to those adopted in the case of the Kallars in Madura and Ramnad districts and submitted a memorial to Government. On the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner the Government have since sanctioned the scheme on a moderate scale. As a beginning the Government have ordered the formation of village panchayats for the Kallars and the opening of 25 elementary schools in the Tanjore district. The working of the scheme will be under the general supervision of the District Superintendent of Police, Tanjore, who has to take the advice of the Commissioner of Labour as to the location of schools and general working.

MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF CRIMINAL TRIBES SETTLEMENTS.

50. The Commissioner visited the Aziznagar, Pallavaram, Perambur, Kavali, Stuartpuram and Sitanagaram settlements and Perambur industrial school. As administration reports have been sent on each of the settlements, they do not call for a detailed report here.

The population of the settlements on 31st March 1924 excluding O. Vs., and those in jail was as follows :—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Kulasekharapatnam	88	98	85	271
Aziznagar	258	316	412	986
Pallavaram	61	77	66	204
Perambur	76	69	79	224
Reformatory Settlement, Guntūr	42	74	25	141
Sitanagaram	173	270	371	814
Stuartpuram	417	458	683	1,558
Kavali	395	531	799	1,725
Siddhapuram	40	51	62	153

The five settlements under the management of the Salvation Army, viz., Pallavaram, Perambur, Reformatory settlement, Guntūr, Sitanagaram and Stuartpuram settlements worked satisfactorily during the year.

51. *Pallavaram Settlement.*—The industry on which the settlers are employed are leather work and quarrying. The settlement received an order from the Police department for the supply of sandals and this gave work to the settlers for six months. Many of the women who work in the Corporation quarries have babies and used to take the elder children from school to them. In order to overcome this difficulty an old woman has been appointed as quarry nurse during the year to look after the babies at the quarry site while the mothers are at work.

52. *Perambur Settlement.*—The settlers are employed in the Carnatic and Buckingham Mills, the Choolai Mills, the City Corporation and in the weavery in the settlement itself. The wages at all these places are fairly good.

53. *Stuartpuram Settlement.*—Though this settlement derives good income from rope, mat and basket-making, the main hope of this settlement is its agriculture. These are largely dependent upon the supply of water from the Kistna Canal, which came too late in the year to be of service. It is hoped that in this year there will be plenty of water as it is proposed to construct a separate channel for the settlement.

54. *Sitanagaram Settlement.*—An extent of 395·96 acres of the Undavalli lanka was leased out to the settlement. The lanka is practically a jungle overgrown with rellu grass and thorns. At the suggestion of the District Magistrate an extent of 50 acres was reclaimed and brought under cultivation. The bringing of the lanka under cultivation is of the greatest importance as this would solve practically every difficulty, financial and otherwise, of the Sitanagaram settlement and would make the settlement quite independent of quarry work on which these men are employed.

Many of the boys have become efficient workers in the carpet industry. The state of the market has however kept the price rather low, but it is hoped that this will improve.

55. *Aziznagar Settlement.*—The main occupation of the settlers of this settlement also is agriculture. Landholding population has increased this year to 83 per cent against 75 per cent last year, showing thereby that the settlers with proper encouragement are inclined to become regular agriculturists leaving their old criminal pursuits.

56. *Siddhapuram Settlement.*—The season for agriculture was not so favourable this year The woddars only get a comparatively low yield from the land cleared by them owing to failure of rain. To supplement the wool industry Government have been addressed to sanction Rs. 300 for opening a cotton-weaving industry on a small scale as an experimental measure. It is anticipated that there will be a readier market for cotton goods.

57. *Education of children.*—In each of the settlements there is a local school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The following statement shows the number of children receiving education on 31st March 1924 :—

Settlement.	Number of children receiving education.	
	BOYS.	GIRLS.
Siddhapuram	23	13
Kavali	234	203
Stuartpuram	179	159
Sitanagaram	58	84
Perambur	26	8
Pallavaram	27	20
Aziznagar	94	56
Kulasekharapatnam	20	14

58. *Industrial education.*—The Government having recognized that their attempt at the reclamation of criminal tribes should, if they were to prove a success, be, to no small extent, directed towards the proper upbringing of children, decided in 1915 to institute under the management of the Salvation Army two industrial schools, one for the training of boys and the other of girls, between the ages of 10 and 16 belonging to criminal tribes. The main object of these schools was to provide a course of training which would enable the pupils to support themselves in after-life and thus remove the incentive to a life of crime. There was already a school intended for the children of criminals under the management of the Salvation Army at Perambur and located on Government land adjoining the Perambur settlement and it was utilized for an industrial school for boys.

The management and control of the institution has been entrusted to the Salvation Army and Captain George Batten has been appointed as Superintendent of the school.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 17 of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1911, the industrial school at Perambur has been declared to be a school established under that sub-section for the reception of the male children of the members of any criminal tribe in respect of which a notification has been published under section 11. The strength originally sanctioned for the school was 50, which was subsequently raised to 100.

The industries that are taught in the school are carpentry, tailoring and rattan work. The strength of the school at the end of the year was as follows :—

	Strength.
Carpentry	31
Tailoring	34
Rattan work	31
Total ...	96

The Salvation Army Girls' school, Nellore, had a strength of 41 girls on 31st March 1924.

59. In February 1924 an exhibition of the articles manufactured by the Salvation Army settlements and Kallars was held in the Memorial Hall, Madras, and it was opened by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon. These exhibitions serve as an object lesson to the settlers that people of their own caste could make articles of merit and that there is an outlet for their talents in many trades. It also encourages industries. The exhibition attracted a very large number of visitors.

60. *Other criminal tribes.*—During the year 75 additional Donga Dasaris of the Bellary district were transferred to the Hubili settlement in the Bombay Presidency and a sum of Rs. 9,375 was paid to the Bombay Government towards the maintenance of these and those transferred during last year.

A sum of nearly over Rs. 300 was sanctioned to the District Magistrate, Salem, during the year towards the education of the Koravars at Padayachiyur, Atur taluk, Salem district, and a sum of over Rs. 240 was spent towards the education of the Jogis of Panruti in South Arcot district. A sum of Rs. 300 was sanctioned to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, for expenditure in connexion with the education of the children of the criminal tribes of Nakkalas in the Gōdāvari district.

61. *Lambadis—Number of settlements; population, etc.*—The number of settlements remained the same as in last year, but there was an appreciable increase in the number of families and the population in the three settlements of Lawleypet, Chakrayapalem and Papayapalem of Vinukonda taluk while in the Pillutla settlement of Palnad taluk some of the families left for other taluks in search of livelihood.

Cultivation and condition of crops.—There was an increase in cultivation in the Lawleypet settlement. The fall in the cultivated extent in Papayapalem and Chakrayapalem settlements is reported to be due to want of timely rains. The decrease in the cultivated extent in Pillutla settlement is attributed to the poor soil and the Tahsildar recommends further assignment from Pillutla forest reserve. The question of further assignment was already gone into and found to be impracticable. The Collector, however, states that further investigation will be made and the result reported.

Water-supply.—The three settlements in Vinukonda taluk have been provided with fresh water wells, but they are in need of repairs. This is being attended to. The well in the Pillutla settlement is under construction.

Education.—All the settlements except the one at Pillutla have schools attached to them. Attempts have been made to open a school for Srirukminipuram for the benefit of the Pillutla settlement but they have not yet materialized.

Indebtedness of the settlers.—There has been an appreciable reduction in this direction in all the settlements during the year under report.

General.—Last year in about June, the Assistant Conservator of Forests in the course of his inquiries into the success of these settlements came to know that some of the lands granted to the Lambadi settlers in Kakirala reserve were under the cultivation of caste ryots contrary to the conditions of grant and proposed eviction of non-Lambadis and the re-grant of the land to the Lambadi families who had not already an extent of 10 acres each. An inquiry was made in the matter and further steps are being taken. The Vinukonda settlers are not conversant with any industry to supplement their earnings by cultivation. The Revenue Divisional Officer reports that they are keen about learning carpentry, and the Collector recommends that arrangements may be made for teaching them this industry. This will be looked into.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

62. The department is still hampered by the fact that it is entirely temporary except the factory inspection staff, and that the officials employed therein are all lent by other departments and fear that their chances of promotion in their own departments are prejudiced by their absence. But as a whole the officials have worked admirably. I have already referred in the body of the report to the excellent work of Mr. Raja Ayyar, Kallar Special Officer. I would also invite the attention of Government to the good work of Mr. T. R. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, District Labour Officer of Tanjore, of Mr. C. Singaravelu Mudaliyar, District Labour Officer of Guntūr, and of Mr. Muhammad Azmatullah Khan, District Labour Officer of Gōdāvari. I have already mentioned certain officers of the Emigration and Factory departments in forwarding the special reports on those offices.

The Salvation Army have done great work in the settlements. Commissioner Blowers who has left (a very great loss to this Presidency) received a well-earned Kaisar-i-Hind Medal. In Perambur, Captain Batten of the Industrial School has managed a very difficult task with very great tact and energy.

4th September 1924.

G. F. Paddison,
Commissioner of Labour.

APPENDIX I.

Statement showing the principal strikes and lock-outs during the year 1923-24.

Serial number, occupation and locality.	Number of work people involved.	Date when dispute		Cause or object.	Progress and result.
		Began.	Ended.		
1. Spinning. The Nellimala Jute Mills, Nellimala, Vizagapatam district.	334 1,305 1,639	1923. 10th April.	1923. 12th April.	The increase of daily rate of wages in spinning demanded by the men was refused.	Three hundred and thirty-four men of the spinning department struck work and the others (1,305) had to be locked out. The men returned to work unconditionally.
2. Spinning. The Ar. Ar. Sm. Spinning Mills, Madras.	70 women of the reeling department.	4th April. A.N.	6th April.	They struck as a protest against the reduction in their wages.	They resumed work on the 6th April 1923. The result was indefinite.
3. Cotton ginning. The Volkart Brothers Cotton Ginning Factory, Adoni, Bellary district.	10 female coolies.	15th April. F.N.	15th April. A.N.	Increase in wages	Resumed unconditionally the same afternoon.
4. Spinning. The Ar. Ar. Sm. Spinning Mills, Madras.	70 women of the reeling department.	4th May ..	11th May ..	They struck as a protest against the reduction in their wages.	The management refused to accede to their requests and the strikers resumed work at the reduced rate.
5. Moulders. The Madras Engineering Works, Royapuram.	40	29th May ..	30th May ..	The management altered their system of labour from ordinary day-work to piece-work. Forty refused to work under the new system.	Eight men resumed work unconditionally the next day and 32 left the works permanently.
6. Printers. The Diocesan Press, Vepery.	150	16th July ..	18th July ..	They struck in sympathy with those whose services were dispensed with for want of work.	The men dribbled back to work, so that there were 162 men at work on the 18th July 1923 against 216 on the day previous to the strike. The remaining 54 men have not been reinstated. The strike thus collapsed.
7. Spinning. The Nellimala Jute Mills, Nellimala, Vizagapatam district.	63 spinners.	30th July .. A.N.	31st July .. F.N.	A scheme was drawn up to give a production bonus. The spinners went on strike with the hope of securing an early decision of the scheme.	They were told that nothing would be done so long as they were on strike. Then they returned to work. The production bonus was then granted for August 1923 and for each month since 31st July 1923.
8. Boat owners and lascars of Coconada, Godavari district.*	30 300 330	6th August.	17th August.	Discontinuance of a bonus on the channel being declared open after dredging.	The boat owners agreed to work for the existing rate plus the bonus till the new proposal of a revised schedule of rates was sanctioned.
9. Cotton Spinning. The Kaleswarar Mills, Limited, Coimbatore.	230 mostly children.	17th September. A.N.	20th September.	Discontinuance of an allowance which was being given purely as an experimental measure since 1920 for regular attendance.	The manager obtained orders to continue the allowance and several of the strikers returned to work. Some new hands were also appointed to take the place of those few who have not cared to return to work.
10. Sweepers, General Hospital, Madras.	24 male totis.	9th October.	10th and 11th October.	Cancellation of a fine imposed for neglect of duty.	Returned to work of their own accord. No demand for any settlement. The night batch of 12 returned at 6 p.m. on the 10th and the other 12 returned at 6 a.m. on the 11th October 1923.
11. Printers of the Modern Printing Works, Madras.	30	20th October.	6th November.	They were not paid their salary for September 1923 on the usual date and so they stopped work.	They were however coming in daily and signing the register, but did no work. They returned to work on 6th November 1923, when they were paid their salary for September 1923. The binding department was closed, but was expected to be re-opened with new hands.
12. Spinning and Weaving. The Chulai Mills, Madras.†	1,627	1st November. A.N.	2nd November. F.N.	News had been received that bonus would not be given this year and the men thereupon went on strike from 12-30 p.m. on 1st November 1923.	They had a meeting on the morning of 2nd November 1923, and returned to work at about 10 a.m. on 2nd November 1923 unconditionally.
13. Coolies of the Port Trust, Madras.	200	1924. 15th February.	1924. 17th February.	Consequent on the building of quays, the minimum number of men employed by the Port Trust was reduced from 175 to 120. This the men resented and struck work demanding the restoration of the previous minimum.	The men wanted that the matter should be represented to the chairman which the Traffic Manager promised to do only if and after they returned to work. They accordingly came back on the morning of 17th February 1924. The matter was taken to the notice of the chairman and his approval for the reduction obtained. This was communicated to the coolies and they were also told that if they wished they could go away and their work would be done by contract labour.

* The boat owners alleged it was their lascars who went on strike and not themselves. The lascars had nothing to strike and it was really a strike of boat owners.

† The strike lasted for eight hours.

APPENDIX II.

Statement showing the number of labour schools started.

District.	Number of schools at the beginning of the year.	Number of schools started during the year.	Total.				Number of teachers.			Number of pupils.		
			Day school.	Night school.	Combined day and night school.	Total of columns (2) and (3).	Trained.	Untrained.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Tanjore	166	47	22	1	..	213	88	133	221	5,457	485	5,942
Gōdāvari	82	..	54	27	1	82	21	64	85	2,418	410	3,828
Chingleput	44	12	..	4	52	56	7	5	12	587	11	598
South Arcot	19	29	48	..	..	48	10	40	50	1,614	57	1,671
Kistna	..	14	9	2	3	14	8	3	11	372	127	499
Guntūr	..	7	7	..	..	7	8	2	10	183	88	271
Bellary	..	12	12	..	..	12	5	7	12	256	20	276
Trichinopoly	..	39	39	..	..	39	4	39	43	1,368	231	1,599
South Kanara	..	16	16	..	..	16	..	18	18	340	127	467
Madras	5	1	..	5	1	6	5	4	9	278	52	330
Salem	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	2	13	..	13
Madura	236	56	292	..	..	..	197	117	314	6,742	1,147	7,889
Ramnad	1	7	8	..	..	..	5	4	9	150	46	196

APPENDIX III.

Statement of scholarships actually sanctioned in 1923–24.

District.	Fourth standard Rs. 2–8.	Fifth standard Rs. 3.	Sixth standard Rs. 3–8.	Seventh standard Rs. 3–8.	Eighth standard Rs. 3–8.	First form Rs. 3–8.	Second form Rs. 3–8.	Third form Rs. 3–8.	Fourth form Rs. 5.	Fifth form Rs. 6.	Sixth form Rs. 7.	Total.
Madras	12	14	5	4	..	8	5	3	10	1	3	65
South Kanara	1	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	7
Cuddapah	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	3
Ramnad	1	3	3	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Ganjām	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Kurnool	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Anantapur	5	6	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	15
Vizagapatam	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Kistna	5	6	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	29
Gōdāvari	9	9	..	..	..	11	6	2	1	7	1	46
Guntūr	3	7	..	..	..	4	3	..	..	..	..	17
Nellore	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
North Arcot	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
South Arcot	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Tinnevelly	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Tanjore	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	7
The Nilgiris	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Madura	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Salem	39	4	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	48
Malabar	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	7
Total ..	93	61	12	12	5	31	20	11	16	10	10	281—* Rs. 7,552

* For eight months from July 1923 to February 1924—Rs. 7,552.

APPENDIX IV.

Statement of lands reserved and assigned to the depressed classes up to the end of the year 1923-24.

District.	Extent reserved.	Extent assigned.
	ACS.	ACS.
Anantapur	106,559·80	7,764·03
North Arcot	46,144·99	9,070·52
South Arcot	47,752 02	5,559·89
Bellary	23,890·25	5,342·91
South Kanara	15,833·47	194·94
Chingleput	12,210·92	2,306·57
Chittoor	9,689·40	2,553·92
Coimbatore	8,214·49	4,067·74
Cuddapah	41,682·96	7,463·90
Ganjām	4,264·82	2,048·78
Gōdāvari	10,479·16	2,424·48
Guntūr	46,539·09	11,072·74
Kistna	21,982·24	18,579·02
Kurnool	55,495·00	8,731·00
Madura	19,296·93	3,989·05
Nellore	27,640·33	6,526·12
The Nilgiris	129·58	27·08
Ramnad	1,386·69	292·25
Salem	35,999·62	2,794·19
Tanjore	7,541·24	259·13
Tinnevelly	3,936·08	1,167·04
Trichinopoly	25,935·92	1,676·88
Vizagapatam	2,523·22	337·23

APPENDIX V.

Statement showing the representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of the Madras Presidency.

Name or class of local body.	Total number in the Madras Presidency.	Number represented by one member.	Number represented by two members.	Number represented by three members.	Number represented by none.
District boards	24	20	3	1	..
Taluk boards	126	75	..	..	51
Municipal councils	80	44	6	2	28

Order—No. 3348, Law (General), dated 27th November 1924.

Recorded.

2. The Government note that the labour situation continued to be quiet during the year.

3. The report shows satisfactory progress in the programme of work for the improvement of the condition of the depressed classes. The special operations of the department were extended during the year under review to the districts of Kistna, Bellary, Guntūr, Trichinopoly and South Kanara. The progress made in the year in the formation and working of co-operative societies is specially noteworthy. It is gratifying that, owing to the intensive supervision exercised by the department, the co-operative societies in the districts of Tanjore, Gōdāvari and Chingleput are repaying with the utmost punctuality the loans advanced to them and the Government trust that it will be possible to achieve equally satisfactory results in this respect in other districts as well. A labour officer has recently been appointed for the city of Madras and it is hoped that, with the co-operation of non-official workers, improvement will be effected in the sanitary condition of the cheris in the city.

4. The working of the settlements for criminal tribes continued to be satisfactory. The Government have reviewed separately the work done for the reclamation of Kallars.

5. In conclusion the Government congratulate Mr. Paddison on the successful administration of the department for another year and are pleased to note the testimony borne by him to the good work of the officers named in the report. The Government are also grateful to the non-official gentlemen referred to by Mr. Paddison for their valuable assistance. By the departure of Commissioner Blowers from India, after many years of devoted service in the Salvation Army, the Government have lost the assistance of one whose advice has always been freely placed at their disposal and whose co-operation has been of very great value in dealing with the problems of the Labour Department.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

V. T. Krishnama Achariyar,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Labour.
,, Development Department.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Judicial Department.
,, Local Self-Government Department.
,, Law (Education) Department.
,, Board of Revenue.

Copy to the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour (with C.L.).
,, Madras Provincial Co-operative Union (Limited).

Editors' Table.

Government of Madras

LAW (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2914, 21st September 1925

Labour—Labour department—Administration report for 1924-25—Recorded with remarks.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter from R. H. ELLIS, Esq., I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Law (General) Department, dated 22nd August 1925, D. Dis. No. 977.

I have the honour to forward herewith my report on the working of the Labour Department for the year 1924-25.

ENCLOSURE

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1924-25.

1. *Personnel.*—Mr. G. F. Paddison, M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., continued to be Commissioner of Labour during the year till the 11th February 1925 when he proceeded on leave. Mr. R. H. Ellis, I.C.S., was appointed in his place and took charge on the 12th February 1925. M.R.Ry. V. B. Duraiswami Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., continued to be manager of the office during the year.

2. *Touring.*—The Commissioner visited during the year the districts of Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Nellore, The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, South Kanara, Trichinopoly, Madura and Malabar. Under the special orders of Government he visited the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah and Anantapur to inquire into the exodus of coolies from Assam. The Commissioner inspected during the year the industrial settlements at Kavali, Sitanagaram, Stuartpuram, Kulasekharapatnam, Perambur and Pallavaram and also the emigration depots at Avadi and Tattaparai.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT, XII OF 1911.

3. A separate report has been submitted to Government on the working of the Act for the year 1924. Difficulty is still experienced in applying some of the provisions of the new Act particularly to factories where casual labour is employed, but on the whole the new Act appears to be working well. The inspecting staff appears to be inadequate and the question of constituting a fourth circle is under the consideration of Government.

LABOUR.

4. *Labour Disputes.*—A statement showing the strikes during the year will be found in Appendix I to this report. The most important was the strike of the firemen on the metre gauge and of the firemen, drivers and workshopmen at Podanur, etc., on the broad gauge of the South Indian Railway. After prolonged discussion and negotiation the strike was brought to an end through the intervention of the District Magistrate Mr. H. A. B. Vernon, I.C.S. In connexion with the trouble at the Podanur Workshop the Commissioner visited Coimbatore and discussed the question at length with the Collector and the District Superintendent of Police. He also interviewed Mr. Reynolds, District Loco Superintendent, about 20 of the workmen, and Mr. Kirk, a theosophical worker and leader of the men.

Of the fourteen strikes, seven related to scavengers, cart-drivers, drainage workmen, etc., employed in municipalities, three to textile workers, two to railway men, one to boatmen and the remaining one to agricultural labourers.

The demands related to pay in six cases, to personnel in one and to other causes in seven.

The strikers were successful in two cases, unsuccessful in five and partially successful in four. The result was indefinite in one and not known in the other.

The strikes lasted for periods ranging from a day to a fortnight. The strike of the Podanur railway men was of the longest duration.

5. *Labour Unions.*—It has been pointed out in the previous report that unions cannot be established on a satisfactory basis until the Trade Union Bill is brought into force. In September last the Government of India circulated a draft Bill and the Commissioner offered his remarks thereon after consulting the Labour Advisory Board. The Bill has subsequently been introduced in the Legislative Assembly and referred to a Select Committee. It is hoped that it will be soon passed into law. During his visit to Coimbatore the Commissioner explained to the members of the Podanur Railway Labour Union the real object of a union and suggested to them that they might go into the question of benefits for unemployment, provision for marriages or old age pensions and gratuities on retirement and similar benefits. He also advised the men that if they were going to have a union at all it should be a union of all the employees including Anglo-Indians.

6. *Labour Advisory Board.*—Five meetings of the Labour Advisory Board were held during the year and the following subjects were considered at the meetings :—

(1) Rules under the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

(2) Draft Bill of the Government of India for prevention and settlement of trade disputes.

(3) Draft Bill of the Government of India for registration and protection of Trade Unions.

(4) Repeal of the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act and the enactment of a local measure in lieu thereof.

(5) Weekly Payment Bill introduced by Diwan Chaman Lall, M.L.A.

(6) Maternity Benefit Bill introduced by Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A.

In addition the Board also considered the conclusions arrived at in the sixth session of the International Labour Conference, 1924.

7. *Workmen's Compensation Act.*—This new Act came into force on 1st July 1924 and the Commissioner of Labour was appointed Commissioner under the Act in addition to his duties. A separate report on the working of the Act for the period ending 31st December 1924 has been submitted to Government.

8. *Working of the Planters Labour Act and the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act.*—Mention was made in last year's report of the decision of the Government of India to repeal the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act with effect from 1st April 1926, and to leave it to Local Governments to take steps, if necessary, for the enactment of a local measure with reference to the needs of particular areas and particular conditions. The question of a local measure was considered by the Commissioner, and the leaders of the depressed classes and the members of the Labour Advisory Board were consulted. It was reported to Government that no local measure appeared necessary, but that the Public Works Department should be consulted before a final conclusion was arrived at. As regards the Planters Labour Act no special questions arose during the year.

9. There was an exodus of some famished and disease-stricken coolies from the Anamalais during the month of June 1924. Some of these people who fell sick made their way to the Pollachi hospital, but a few died on the way. The District Magistrate, Coimbatore, Mr. H. A. B. Vernon, I.C.S., took prompt steps to render assistance to these unfortunate men and a sum of Rs. 750 was reappropriated from the budget grant of the Labour Department to supplement the expenditure incurred by the District Magistrate.

The Anamalai Planters' Association also made immediate arrangements to have the ghaut patrolled by an ambulance cart and established a first-aid station with beds in a chattram at the 14th mile on the ghaut road. These precautions which are still continued have prevented any recurrence of these regrettable incidents.

10. *Emigration.*—A separate report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1924 has already been submitted to Government and was recorded with remarks in G.O. No. 1578, Law (General), dated 12th May 1925.

Certain labourers recruited last year from the Ceded districts for the Assam tea gardens were repatriated as they refused to work in the gardens. This exodus of coolies roused public criticism and it was demanded that further recruitment of coolies to Assam should be stopped. In G.O. No. 2873, Law (General), dated 14th October 1924, Mr. Paddison was directed to tour the Ceded districts and get first-hand information from the coolies themselves as to their reasons for leaving the estates. Mr. Paddison accordingly visited the chief recruiting centres and submitted to Government a detailed report in the matter which was placed on the table of the Legislative Council. The Council passed a resolution that emigration to Assam should be stopped, but Government were unable to give effect to it as it would be detrimental to the interest of the labouring classes thus to restrict their freedom to sell their labour in the best market.

The Government of Ceylon held a Pearl Fishery in the Gulf of Mannar for about two months from the middle of February 1925. These fisheries are always largely attended by people from Southern India. The Government therefore appointed M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur S. K. Sundaracharlu Avargal, M.A., as Special Officer in connexion with the Fishery to see that the employers fulfilled their obligations and generally to look after the interests of the Indian employees at the Fishery camp. Mr. Sundaracharlu has submitted to Government a separate report upon the working of the Fishery.

11. *Labour and Employment Bureau.*—As usual the names of ex-service men and members of the depressed classes seeking the assistance of this department in securing employment were circulated to heads of offices where they wished to be employed. The claims of the depressed classes were specially brought to the notice of employers and it was often impressed on employers that other things being equal the depressed classes should not by reason of their caste be debarred from employment.

DEPRESSED CLASSES.

12. As in the previous year, special staffs for the amelioration of the depressed classes worked in the districts of Tanjore, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Bellary, South Kanara, Chingleput, South Arcot and Trichinopoly. During the year under review a separate Labour Officer was appointed for Madras City for the construction of houses for labourers whose houses were burnt during the Mill troubles of 1921 and also for the improvement of the cheris in the city.

House-sites.

13. During the year a total extent of 208 acres of patta land was acquired at a cost of Rs. 2,15,000. The extent acquired was distributed into 3,674 sites. The total extent acquired since the inception of the Department is 987 acres costing Rs. 9,98,578 and benefiting 16,351 families. More sites could have been acquired during the year but for the introduction of the new Land Acquisition Amendment Act which, as already reported, gives much scope for the landowners to delay acquisition proceedings. Especially was this the case in Tanjore where the total extent acquired fell from 75 acres in 1923-24 to 17 acres in 1924-25.

14. An allotment of four lakhs was provided under 'Loans' for the acquisition of house-sites for depressed classes. The amount spent was Rs. 2,19,934 and a sum of Rs. 1,10,000 was reappropriated for other purposes as detailed below :—

	Rs.
Flood relief	40,000
Co-operative house building	10,000
Kallar Special Officer	60,000
Total ...	1,10,000

Of the remaining amount, a sum of Rs. 60,700 was surrendered to Government and the balance represents the savings in Tanjore district where the full amount allotted was not spent, for the reasons mentioned above.

The work done towards the provision of house-sites in the districts in which special staffs are working is given in detail in the succeeding paragraphs.

15. *Tanjore.*—The total extent of land acquired during the year was 17 acres costing Rs. 15,970 against 75 acres valued at Rs. 65,485 in the previous year. Seventy-three other cases of acquisition involving an extent of 76 acres at an approximate cost of Rs. 91,098 were at different stages of progress at the end of the year.

Civil suits against Government.—Eleven suits were pending at the beginning of the year and two suits were instituted during the year, making a total of 13. In eight cases the suits were disposed of favourably to Government and in one case relating to the acquisition of house-sites for caste-labourers of Talayur village, Nannilam taluk, the suit was decided against Government. An appeal has been preferred to the Sub-Court against the decision of the lower Court. The High Court has decided in favour of Government in the appeal preferred by the owners of sites in Amur village, Negapatam taluk, questioning the legality of the application of the Land Acquisition Act for the acquisition of land for house-sites.

Land acquisition original petition reference.—Twelve petitions were pending at the beginning of the year. Thirteen petitions were filed during the year. Sixteen cases were disposed of in the year. In eleven cases the original award was confirmed and in five cases the amount was enhanced.

16. *Gōdāvari.*—Thirty-four cases of acquisition involving an extent of 41 acres at a cost of Rs. 53,401 were dealt with in the year in the Amalapur and Razole taluks. In addition an extent of 0·55 acre valued at Rs. 538 was acquired in L. Polavaram of Razole taluk and land of similar value was granted in exchange. Altogether 899 house-sites were assigned in the lands acquired. A sum of Rs. 7,993 was paid on account of enhanced compensation and Rs. 1,852 towards pleader's fees and law charges in connexion with land acquisition cases referred to in civil courts. At the end of the year 103 cases of acquisition involving an extent of 69 acres to provide 1,514 house-sites at an estimated cost of Rs. 81,133 were at different stages of progress.

An extent of 1·68 acres of Public Works Department poramboke in which 42 sites were assigned was permanently granted to Adi-Andhras subject to the payment of the market value in five and ten instalments Unnecessary porambokes to the extent of 33·72 acres mostly puntas were transferred to village-site poramboke in 25 villages and 851 sites were assigned. Fifty-three sites were also formed in 2·15 acres of the existing village-site in five villages of Amalapur and Razole taluks. All the above sites were assigned free of cost and assessment; but a special condition was inserted in the pattas that the sites should be vacated without compensation whenever required for any Government or local fund purposes. Besides the above, 199 sites were leased out for 20 years in Public Works Department porambokes—measuring 7·19 acres, subject to the payment of an annual rental of one anna; and 32 sites were granted in Rajahmundry subject to the payment of the highest dry rate of the village. In all, house-sites were provided for 1,317 families during the year under report. More lands could have been granted during the year but for the orders of the Collector in December last prohibiting assignment in punta porambokes on the ground that they vest in local boards.

17. *Kistna.*—An extent of 22·92 acres was acquired at a total cost of Rs. 17,977 in 12 villages, providing house-sites for 467 persons. Proposals to acquire 29·83 acres were sanctioned by the Collector but acquisition proceedings could not be started in all these cases as the applicants for house-sites were unable to make payment of the initial deposit on account of their extreme poverty. The District Labour Officer reports that most of the Adi-Andhra hamlets are very badly congested in this district but that the Adi-Andhras hesitate to avail themselves of the opportunity of applying for house-sites because they are so poor that they are unable to pay the interest on the loans advanced by the Government at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum. A reduction in the rate of interest might be feasible as a special concession to the depressed classes, now that Government's rate of borrowing has been reduced to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It would give great relief to all borrowers from these classes and the question will be examined.

18. *Guntūr.*—Twenty-eight cases of acquisition involving an extent of 52 acres, costing Rs. 79,844 and providing 821 sites were completed during the year. In addition 26 cases of acquisition of an extent of 51 acres costing Rs. 67,140 were in different stages of progress at the end of the year. In one case of acquisition the Subordinate Judge awarded enhanced compensation and an appeal has been filed in the High Court.

A further extent of 9·82 acres was acquired during the year in Itanagarapadu of Tenali municipality for extension of the Adi-Andhra hamlet. It requires to be raised at a cost of Rs. 5,600. Necessary application for loan together with an estimate submitted to the Commissioner has since been sanctioned. In addition a sum of Rs. 5,800 from "Free Grants" has been sanctioned for the formation of mud roads. The works are under progress.

Poramboke lands to an extent of 29·68 acres were laid out into 642 sites after allowing for streets and another extent of 1·65 acres (assessed waste) was assigned for house-site on special pattas. Besides the Collector ordered the assignment of 55·06 acres in Bapatla and Chirala villages for house-sites in plots of 0·20 each and 0·06 each. Out of this extent, 33·49 acres were reserved for Adi-Andhras. In addition a further extent of 23·95 acres was ordered to be assigned on kabelas during the year

19. *Bellary.*—In almost all the villages investigated ample village-site was available for construction of new houses, but in some isolated cases where this was not possible the caste people who were approached, generously relinquished free of cost in favour of the depressed classes portions of their own sites. The total extent thus relinquished including the ground occupied by wells and pathways came to about 3·72 acres. This is pleasing evidence of good feeling between the caste people and the untouchables. Porambokes and assessed wastes to the extent of about 2·70 acres were proposed for conversion to village-site poramboke in five villages. In the villages of Vengalapuram and Mandigeri which are included in the Adoni municipality proposals were sent to the Chairman for the acquisition of S. No. 82 in which sweepers' houses have been constructed at Vengalapuram and of adjacent patta land in Mandigeri for future construction of houses.

20. *South Kanara.*—No land was acquired for house-sites in this district. Waste lands at the disposal of Government are provided for this purpose. Five hundred and thirty-nine house-sites were thus assigned to the depressed classes. In and around Mangalore town however, there is little vacant land and much difficulty is being experienced in securing suitable land for house-sites. This was partly overcome by the reservation of a block of 15 acres in Derebail (north of Mangalore) and twenty acres in Jeppinamogar (south-east of Mangalore) sanctioned by the Collector in spite of strong opposition from the neighbours and the municipality. These grants are entirely due to the Collector (Mr. Souter) but for whose sympathy and interest the Adi-Dravidas would not have been fortunate enough to get the lands. The plot at Derebail has been distributed among 58 families and that at Jeppinamogar among 158 families. The latter is the largest colony ever formed in the district and lying as it does just at the outskirts of the Mangalore municipality, will form a miniature town for the Adi-Dravidas when it comes to be built upon and occupied. It has been appropriately named, after the Collector, as "Souterpeta" by the Adi-Dravidas in token of their gratitude to him.

The grantees are unfortunately too poor to purchase all the necessary building materials and thus the erection of houses on the sites is a slow process. Every endeavour is made to help them and in the case of Koragas who are the poorest and the lowest class, building materials (bamboos, cadjan leaves and thatching grass) are supplied free of cost on a small scale.

21. *Chingleput.*—The village investigations are carried on in this district unlike other districts by the Firka Revenue Inspectors. The reports submitted by them were in most cases found to be of little use for want of a proper sketch of the cheri showing the lay-out of the houses as existing and a statement of the details of the extent of each cheri, the number of families living in each of them, etc., to judge adequately of the nature and extent of congestion. The District Labour Officer had to re-investigate conditions either himself or with the aid of the Special Inspector.

In spite of these difficulties efforts are being made to relieve congestion by transferring poramboke lands to cheri sites. Such extensions were made in sixty-seven villages during the year. One hundred and thirty-four acres of poramboke land were transferred to cheri site by the Collector and sixty-two acres were assigned to 905 families for providing house-sites. The relief thus afforded is very much appreciated by the Adi-Dravidas. Where poramboke lands were not available steps were taken to acquire patta lands on a co-operative basis. The Adi-Dravidas are beginning to realize the advantages of getting suitable house-sites in this manner. But the slowness with which acquisition was made in the district in the past years as a consequence of lack of the requisite establishment has hitherto rather discouraged them from applying for land as freely as is the case in other districts. During the year however patta lands to the extent of 18·20 acres were acquired in ten villages at a cost of Rs. 5,020. Thirteen cases of acquisition involving an extent of 12 acres are in various stages of progress.

22. *South Arcot.*—An extent of forty acres has been acquired at a cost of Rs. 36,368 for the provision of house-sites for 670 families. In addition an extent of 11 acres of Government land was transferred to nattam and assigned to the depressed classes.

23. *Trichinopoly.*—The achievement of the special staff in this direction has been small. This is due to the reluctance or inability of the depressed classes to acquire house-sites at their own cost. An extent of only 16·45 acres was acquired for provision of house-sites for 204 families at a cost of Rs. 6,133. An extent of 2·25 acres of poramboke land was assigned to 79 families.

The floods of July 1924 washed away several cheris and the sufferers are now living in patta lands. Many were rendered homeless and relief was afforded from the funds started by the Missionary and other philanthropic bodies. Most of the people are unable to afford any money for the acquisition of land for house-sites and want to be provided with sites free. In Uthamaseri no poramboke lands are available and the acquisition of sites at Government cost is under correspondence. Several cheris in the villages bordering the Cauvery and the Coleroon were submerged during the floods. In these villages no high ground is available and the occupiers are not willing to leave for a better site in spite of constant persuasion and their condition consequently could not be improved. The question of providing better sites in Pandamangalam and Kuhoor is under correspondence. The depressed classes in the municipal limits of Trichinopoly have applied for house-sites and the question of providing them in the several pending town-extension schemes is under correspondence with the Municipal Chairman.

24. *Madras.*—The Government have sanctioned the proposal of the Commissioner to grant loans to co-operative societies in the city to enable the tenants in cheris belonging to private landowners to purchase the sites on which they constructed their houses.

Proposals have been submitted to Government to house 300 Adi-Dravida families on a plot of Government land between Peter's road and Lloyd's road. Most of the cheris in Madras belong to private individuals and the Adi-Dravidas are owners of superstructures only, paying exorbitant rent to the landowners. The cheris on the Mount Road are very congested. It will be a great boon to the Adi-Dravidas if the land proposed is placed at the disposal of this department for housing these people.

There is also another proposal under consideration for housing about 300 families on a private plot of land in Tondiarpet.

In the Swaminayakan cheri acquisition case, the appeal preferred to the High Court by the landowner has been decided against Government and the award passed by the City Civil Judge has been further enhanced. The question of the disposal of the site has therefore become complicated.

The scheme for housing the labourers of Puliantope, whose houses were burnt during the mill troubles of 1921, has been engaging the attention of this department for a long time. References have been made in previous reports to the difficulty of getting suitable land for the purpose. After much correspondence, a plot of land on Decastor road measuring 22 grounds and 950 square feet was obtained from

the Revenue Department. The level of the ground was raised at a cost of about Rs. 2,500. Four blocks of 44 houses in all are under construction. Out of the allotment of Rs. 19,700 sanctioned in G.O. Mis. No. 2550, Law (General), dated 9th September 1924, a sum of Rs. 13,232 was spent during the year and the work is nearing completion. It was proposed to house the remaining refugees of the Vysarpadi camp in a portion of the land known as Sheep-Pen land. The Corporation of Madras have generously sanctioned the sale of this land at Rs. 100 per ground and the sanction of Government to the scheme is being applied for.

The transfer of an extent of 35 grounds of land in R.S. No. 1761-1 of Vepery, which belongs to the Military Department to house about 80 Madiga families who were also dispossessed during the mill troubles, is under correspondence with the Government.

Co-operation.

25. The total number of societies organized and registered during the year, including the societies transferred by the Co-operative Department, was 334 against 233 in the previous year, thus making up a total of 969 societies at the end of the year. Besides the above, 142 societies organized by the department were pending registration at the end of the year. The activities of the societies are mainly confined to the following items :—

(1) acquisition of house-sites ;
(2) loans for agricultural purposes ;
(3) taking up of large blocks of land on darkhast or on lease and provision of capital for the reclamation of the lands ;
(4) joint purchase and sale of stores ; and
(5) relief for the persons affected by the floods of July 1924.

At the beginning of the year the societies in Kistna, Guntūr, South Arcot, Tanjore and Chingleput owed to Government a sum of Rs. 2,55,787 out of the loans granted to them in previous years. During the year under review a further sum of Rs. 2,05,289 was given to these societies as well as those in Trichinopoly and Madras. Of the instalments due during the year, a sum of Rs. 80,547 (which includes a few cases of excess payments) was collected during the year. The instalments overdue from these societies at the end of the year amounted to only Rs. 4,591. The arrears are chiefly in the districts of Tanjore and Kistna. The arrears in Tanjore are due to floods of July 1924 and in Kistna the District Labour Officer is taking steps to collect the balance.

The societies are also borrowing from the Christian Central Bank, Madras. A sum of Rs. 42,895 was due by the societies at the beginning of the year in the districts of Gōdāvari, Guntūr, South Arcot and Chingleput and a further sum of Rs. 73,955 was borrowed from the Bank during the year. Rupees 20,294 under principal and Rs. 1,781 under interest were repaid to the bank. The instalments overdue at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 19,857. The overdues relate practically to Gōdāvari district which suffered a good deal on account of the cyclone. Out of the sum of Rs. 18,600 overdue in this district a sum of Rs. 14,829 has since been collected and the District Labour Officer is making strenuous efforts to collect the balance.

An account of the societies organized in the several districts is given in the succeeding paragraphs.

26. *Tanjore.*—One hundred and thirty-eight societies were organized during the year as against 75 in the previous year which brings the total number of societies to 415 as detailed below :—

(1) House-site societies	288
(2) Credit societies—	
(*a*) Financed by Government for rebuilding houses damaged by floods	60
(*b*) Financed by Central Banks	48
(3) Lease of land and assignment	17
(4) Trading Unions	2
Total ...	415

House-site societies.—The outstanding loans due to Government by these societies amounted to Rs. 1,43,823 at the beginning of the year in respect of 256 bonds. During the year 31 further bonds were taken for a total amount of Rs. 14,835. The collections from the societies up to the end of the year towards principal were Rs. 45,259, of which Rs. 21,261 were repayments in advance. As against a demand of Rs. 26,142 for principal, the overdues on the last day of the year under report were Rs. 2,143 on account of principal and a sum of Rs. 760 under interest. Considering that the district has passed through the throes of an unprecedented flood and consequent drought, the collections must be considered very satisfactory. The total number of awards passed during the year was 22 costing Rs. 15,970 which when added to the figures of the preceding years makes 406 awards amounting to Rs. 3,77,054. The total repayments from collections and deposits were Rs. 2,18,564, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,58,490. Nine societies have already completely discharged their loans to Government.

Societies for credit purposes.—The societies which were financed by the Central Banks in the earlier years are mostly in arrears and special supervision is brought to bear upon them with a view to expedite the collections. Twenty societies are in arrears to the extent of Rs. 4,545 to the Madras Christian Bank and nine societies owe Rs. 2,725 to the Tanjore District Bank. Out of the overdues to the Madras Christian Central Bank, Rs. 3,305 under principal and Rs. 456 under interest fell due just on the last day of the year under report and these amounts cannot therefore be treated as overdues in the strict sense of the term. The progress in the collection of these old outstandings is particularly satisfactory.

The unprecedented floods of July 1924 swamped and destroyed the Adi-Dravida huts in the four taluks of this district which were affected by the breaches. The District Labour Officer and his subordinate officials visited the cheris even during the floods and detailed information of the extent of damages and the financial help required was compiled quickly and carefully. Government were pleased to set apart out of the allotment under loans for acquisition of house-sites a sum of Rs. 40,000 for the grant of loans for the reconstruction of houses at a reduced rate of 6½ per cent with a corresponding reduced rate of 9⅜ per cent leviable on members and repayable in five years. A sum of Rs. 36,500 was disbursed before the end of the year among 72 co-operative societies, of which 17 are societies for which house-site acquisition has been done. The destitutes were helped with temporary relief from the common good funds of co-operative societies by the officers of this department. The Adi-Dravidas of Vinayaganteru, an island in the Coleroon at the Lower Anicut, in which houses were completely washed away by the floods were given a free grant by the department and the entire cheri consisting of 27 cottages was laid out and rebuilt by the department with the free grant amount and from contributions from the local committees before His Excellency the Governor visited the place. Two other societies in Kumbakonam taluk got free aids of the materials through the agency of this department and did not therefore require any loans. Contributions were kindly made by the following to meet the necessary share capital subscriptions under the by-laws on behalf of the borrowing members in view of the extreme penury of the flood-stricken people:—

	Rs.
The Madras Central Flood Relief Committee	4,500
The Tanjore Flood Relief Committee	2,000
G. F. Paddison, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour.	250
Total ...	6,750

Of the amounts advanced, a sum of Rs. 12,977 towards principal and Rs. 565 towards interest have already been repaid to Government in advance. The grant of loans supplemented the help given by the various agencies as it enabled the people to make their new homes more substantial and permanent. On an average the loans did not exceed Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per individual. It is interesting to note that as many as 2,944 persons were recipients which bears a very high proportion to the total numbers affected. The department as the guardian of the interests and welfare of the Adi-Dravidas can, I think, claim that it did not fail them in their sore distress. The greatest credit is due to the Labour Officer and his district staff for their untiring

labours during this critical time. The share capital, free grants and subscription realized from the Adi-Dravidas to supplement the former, will be their own money after the loans are discharged and will be a nucleus for the acquisition of more suitable house-sites.

Lease societies.—As was stated in last year's report, the plan was originated of forming co-operative societies to take over the cultivating leases of padugai lands. Ten societies started for the acquisition of house-sites and for affording flood relief in the taluks of Tanjore and Shiyali contemplate also the leasing of such lands in the neighbourhood. The Executive Engineer, Vennar division, has been heartily co-operating with this department in the matter and has been very kindly giving every preference to the claims of the depressed classes. But since these lands have never been cultivated before, the societies request leases for a longer period and on more favourable terms. Correspondence about this is going on between this department and the Collector on the one hand and the Public Works Department on the other and it is hoped that the matter will receive their sympathetic consideration. The lands in the Vennar division have been reserved for the Adi-Dravidas at certain fixed rentals without putting them up to auction. The lease of 70 acres of land in the old Vennar to the Togur Field Labourers' Co-operative Society referred to in the last administration report had to be kept in abeyance when the scheme was about to be put into execution as the Superintending Engineer has written that the whole extent may not be available on account of the restoration of the head sluice as a result of the last year's floods. On the whole an extent of 226 acres of padugai lands in the Vennar division is held on lease by 18 societies. Eight of which are in the Tirutturaippundi taluk. There are padugai lands in the Cauvery division also and the lease of these lands is under correspondence with the Executive Engineer. The District Labour Officer appealed to a few mirasidars for the grant of ryotwari land on lease to the Adi-Dravida societies. He himself set a praiseworthy practical example by leasing his own land to one society. In this way 316 acres of ryotwari land have been secured for six societies. Four of these societies have completed their first year of lease, but owing to the recent floods the harvests were disappointing. The societies have however made satisfactory arrangements with the lessors concerned in full settlement of their obligations. Three lease societies were financed by the Christian Central Bank to the extent of Rs. 390 for purchasing plough cattle for the Adi-Dravida members. This is a noteworthy development which may have great results in improving the condition of the Adi-Dravida labouring population, for these poor people may hope in this way to get some greater return for their toil than a bare subsistence.

The two trading unions at Tanjore and Tirukkattupalli did more business during the year than in any of the previous years. Both the institutions have almost recouped the losses of the previous years. The Tanjore Trading Union was advised to discontinue the retail business in grocery which had been responsible for all the previous losses. The institution is confining its activities at present to printing and supplying account books to field labourers' co-operative societies and wholesale trade in food-stuffs on the indent system. It is proposed to wind up this union shortly as it does not help the Adi-Dravida societies much. The other union at Tirukkattupalli purchased a heavy stock of paddy and made a gross profit of over Rs. 700 on a turnover of Rs 6,500. The union had a brisk sale of cloths during the last Dipavali season. Its usefulness to the poor and the depressed classes was further enhanced by running a cheap grain store for the benefit of the flood-affected families, the necessary working capital being furnished by the department and the losses set off against the guarantee funds of Rs. 1,678 and Rs. 500 given by the Young Men's Christian Association and Servants of India Society and the Tanjore District Flood Relief Committee respectively. In all, rice and paddy valued at Rs. 10,500 were distributed at 3½ measures per rupee.

27. *Gōdāvari.*—One hundred and eighty societies were working at the beginning of the year, 34 societies were started during the year, making a total of 214 at the end of the year. Twenty-five societies were organized and were awaiting registration at the end of the year. Loans were obtained from the Madras Christian Central Co-operative Bank to the extent of Rs. 15,650 by 22 societies. Due action is being taken for the prompt realization of the overdue arrear loans. A co-operative union at Razole was working during the year and two more unions are about to be organized at Mummidivaram and Kothapeta.

28. *Kistna.*—There are 64 societies under the supervision of the District Labour Officer, of which 48 are in the new Kistua district and the remaining fall in the West Godavari after the bifurcation. Proposals are being made to appoint a separate Inspector for the societies in West Godavari.

Three field labourers' co-operative societies were started in Divi taluk for leasing lanka lands at concession rates without auction. The total extent leased out to these societies is 230·68 acres. These societies are working fairly well. The idea has been taken up with avidity and a large number of requests for the formation of societies for this purpose have been received but it is necessary to proceed with caution as, without intensive supervision in the initial stages, stability cannot be hoped for. The ten societies started last year in Divi taluk have repaid a sum of Rs. 3,462 out of Rs. 6,000 lent to them. Twenty-eight societies transferred by the Assistant Registrar were taken charge of during the year ; of these one society was since dissolved. Ten societies organized in Kaikalur taluk were pending registration at the end of the year.

29. *Guntūr.*—Twenty-three co-operative societies (9 credit and 14 tenants) were organised during the year by the only Co-operative Inspector working under the District Labour Officer and including the 14 societies organized but not registered in 1923-24 the total number at the end of the year was 37 (23 credit and 14 tenants). Of these, 17 societies were awaiting registration at the close of the year pending correspondence with the Christian Central Bank, Madras, and the Collector. Besides these, 24 societies organized and registered by the Co-operative department were transferred to the District Labour Officer during the year. There were thus 61 societies under the control of the Labour Department at the close of the year, of which 17 are unregistered.

An extent of 3,682 acres of lanka lands bearing an annual assessment of Rs. 30,132 was assigned to 20 tenants societies through missionary agency. Out of this an extent of 300 acres is disafforested land of Kolakalur reserve. Through the intervention of the District Labour Officer a sum of Rs. 42,720 was obtained as loan by 17 tenants and 13 credit societies during the year from the Christian Central Bank, Madras. There are no overdues by any of these societies. This satisfactory result is due to the intensive supervision afforded by the missionaries and the Labour Department. The District Labour Officer is introducing as far as possible the system of monthly collections of repayments from the members of these the caste societies.

30. *Bellary.*—The district is still backward in co-operative matters. Four societies with 79 members were organized and registered during the year. One society which was pending registration last year could not be registered as the members were not solvent and had no repaying capacity. Loans to the extent of Rs 2,100 were obtained from the Madras Christian Bank for these societies.

31. *South Kanara.*—There were nine societies at the beginning of the year. Thirty-two societies were organized during the year and excluding the societies that have not been registered and those that have yet to start work, 32 societies were working during the year with 708 members of whom 81 are women. The enrolment of women as members is a peculiar feature of the Adi-Dravida societies not found in the caste societies of the district.

The societies which were originally started on a limited liability basis have been converted into unlimited liability societies. The societies are all credit societies and have been generally working with the share capital collected. Only one society borrowed from the Madras Christian Bank a sum of Rs. 120. Of this Rs. 30 were repaid during the year leaving a balance of Rs. 90. In all Rs. 1,514-8-0 were paid as loans to 141 members. To make the societies more attractive an attempt is being made to introduce non-credit work, viz., purchase of food-stuffs wholesale and supply to members at cheap rates. A modest beginning was made in February 1925 and articles worth Rs. 131 were distributed to members. The articles were first supplied by Mr. Ullal Mangesa Rao, B.A., L.T., Headmaster, Government Higher Elementary Training School, Mangalore. Since then the articles are being supplied by the Co operative Inspector. This system appears to gain popularity as is evidenced by the fact that several societies having heard of this arrangement are clamouring for the introduction of the system in their societies also. This will be done gradually.

32. *Chingleput.*—Twenty-nine societies were organized and registered during the year and three more societies organized are pending registration. Of the 29 societies 27 were for acquisition of land for house-sites and two for credit purposes. There were altogether 85 societies at the end of the year with 1,837 members and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 10,083. During the year seven societies borrowed from the Christian Bank Rs. 4,900 and 181 members had the benefit of such borrowings. At the end of the year six societies were in arrears amounting to Rs. 1,030 of which one society has since cleared off the arrears and Rs. 131 have since been collected from other societies. Loans to the extent of Rs. 3,899 were granted by Government to ten societies with 167 members for the acquisition of house-sites. It is satisfactory to note that there was no overdue balance of either principal or interest in these societies and one society has already completely cleared off the loan. Two credit societies were organized during the year for the patnavars (fishermen) of two Kuppams with the object of joint purchase of the yarn required by the fishermen from wholesale firms and thus to secure for them a saving of not less than 50 per cent of the cost which they ordinarily pay to the retail dealers of yarn.

33. *South Arcot.*—Fifty societies were organized during the year and including the 87 societies formed in the previous years the total number comes to 137. Up to the end of the year a total sum of Rs. 72,733 was advanced by Government to these societies for acquiring lands for houses. Out of this Rs. 26,016 have already been repaid and there are no overdue arrears to Government except a small sum of Rs. 6-0-2. Eight societies have completely repaid the Government loan. In ten cases loans amounting to Rs. 3,615 were obtained from the Christian Central Bank. An amount of Rs. 350 was repaid towards this loan, and there is no overdue arrear at all. A co-operative society for the teachers employed in the department has also been organized to help them with credit and saving facilities. An extent of 511 acres out of the disafforested block in Ariyalur Tirukkai village, Villupuram taluk, was assigned for cultivation in the name of the co-operative society formed for the purpose and a good deal of propaganda work was done to enlist members and persuade them to settle in the block. Steps are being taken to organize leasing societies and labour unions in certain places for the benefit of the Adi-Dravidas

34. *Trichinopoly.*—The system of providing house-sites through the agency of co-operative societies is not popular in this district and the system of payment by direct instalment is therefore in force. Propaganda is being carried on by the Special Inspector to make the Adi-Dravidas appreciate the benefits of an ordinary co-operation and thrift society.

Education.

35. The number of schools opened during the year was 166 and including the schools in existence at the beginning of the year, the total number at the end of the year was 656. Of this, 540 were day schools, 52 were night schools and 64 were combined day and night schools. The total strength of these schools was 22,214 of whom, 19,774 were boys and 2,440 girls. Six hundered and eighty-three teachers were employed in these schools of whom 303 were trained and 380 were untrained.

A sum of Rs. 1,36,199-1-10 was spent during the year on account of the pay of the teachers and contingencies. Rupees 12,407 were spent on furniture, books, maps, etc., and Rs. 10,452 on the construction of sheds for schools and repairs to sheds. During the year 37 sheds were erected and 16 old sheds were repaired. Appendix II shows the particulars of schools, teachers, etc., under the control of this department.

36. The following are the important grants made by this department on account of the education of the depressed classes :—

(1) A sum of Rs. 625 was granted to the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore, towards the cost of maintaining the carpentry workshop attached to the Court Hill School.

(2) A sum of Rs. 500 each was sanctioned to the Social Service League and the Poor Schools Society to supplement their resources for maintaining schools under their control for the general uplift of the depressed classes.

(3) A monthly expenditure of Rs. 30 was sanctioned to a boarding school for the Sugalis at Panyam, Nandyal taluk, maintained by Rao Sahib D. Paniya. The pupils of the schools are given elementary education and they are besides taught mat-weaving and stitching and they are boarded free in the boarding home. The school serves the very useful purpose of educating Sugali children and weaning them from the criminal tendencies of their parents.

(4) A sum of Rs. 3,112 was sanctioned during the year towards the cost of the Free Boarding House and the recurring charges of the weaving and carpentry section attached to the elementary school at Atmakur. The number of boys on the rolls at the time of inspection on 8th October 1924 was 48. Arrangements have been made for introducing weaving as an optional subject in the school.

(5) The Government sanctioned the payment of a stipend of Rs. 8-8-0 a month to each of four boys of the Salvation Army School at Stuartpuram to enable them to undergo training in the Lower Elementary Training class at Guntur. A sum of Rs. 32 was also sanctioned for the supply of books to the boys.

37. *Depressed Classes Hostel at Madras.*—Forty-six pupils were selected for admission to the hostel during the year, 8 from the mufassal and 38 from the City. Of these, 23 were old boarders who had secured a pass in the annual examination of their schools and the rest were new entrants. Six did not join. Two pupils subsequently left the hostel.

It is proposed to take a larger number of pupils from mufassal districts during the current year and to reduce the number from the City.

38. *Scholarships.*—Out of 390 scholarships and 135 fee remissions sanctioned by Government 385 scholarships (including 194 renewals) and 111 fee remissions were granted during the year as detailed below :—

Standard or Form.	Monthly value of scholarship.	Number of scholarships.	Fee remissions newly granted during the year.	Total.
	RS. A. P.			
IV Standard	2 8 0	120	...	120
V Do.	3 0 0	80	...	80
VI Standard or I Form ...	3 0 0 and 3 8 0	60	40	100
VII Standard or II Form ...	Do.	40	30	70
VIII Standard or III Form...	Do.	30	20	50
IV Form	5 0 0	20	13	33
V Form	6 0 0	20	8	28
VI Form	7 0 0	15	...	15
	Total ...	385	111	496

* The value of the fee remissions is Rs. 22 per annum for I to III Forms and Rs. 42 per annum for IV to VI forms.

Government sanctioned during the year the scheme submitted by the Commissioner awarding industrial scholarships to depressed classes pupils learning a trade or profession in recognized industrial schools or to selected apprentices serving properly arranged apprenticeships for a specified term of training in workshops or mills. The aim of these scholarships is to encourage deserving apprentices and pupils to complete their whole apprenticeship or period of training at a particular institution or workshop.

In pursuance of the above orders 110 scholarships as detailed below were granted during the year :—

Subject.	First year Rs. 3½ per mensem.	Second year Rs. 4 per mensem.	Third year Rs. 5 per mensem.	Fourth year Rs. 6 per mensem.	Fifth year Rs. 7 per mensem.	Total.
Weaving	14	8	3	3	..	28
Carpentry	24	25	12	5	1	67
Fitters and Drivers	5	3	1	..	..	9
Blacksmithy	5	..	1	..	..	6
Total ..	48	36	17	8	1	110

Free Grants.

39. An allotment of Rs. 1,65,000 was sanctioned during the year under Free Grants including grants for sanitary improvements in Madras cheris. A sum of Rs. 1,46,752 was spent out of this allotment on account of wells, pathways, burial-grounds and other sanitary improvements; Rupees 6,381 re-appropriated for other purposes and Rs. 6,978 surrendered to Government. The particulars of the works executed are given below.

40. *Water-supply.*—A sum of Rs. 83,716 was spent by the District Labour Officers during the year against Rs. 68,535 in 1923-24 on account of water-supply. The number of works executed including repairs was 427. Except a few cases of repairs to tanks the works were all wells. The amounts spent by the District Labour Officers during the year are given below :—

Districts.	Number of works.	Amount. Rs. A. P.
Kistna—		
Pot-ring wells	51	2,876 15 0
Brick wells	21	1,963 12 9
Tank...	1	375 0 0
Total ..		5,215 11 9
Chingleput	77	15,972 0 0
South Kanara	44	5,976 15 4
South Arcot	39	9,953 0 8
Gōdāvari	20	3,870 0 0
Bellary	35	15,246 9 4
Trichinopoly	36	7,542 9 0
Guntūr	72	15,845 5 2
Tanjore	31	4,093 11 0
Total ...	427	83,715 14 3

In addition grants as detailed below were made to the local boards and Revenue officers for execution of well works. These grants as usual related to districts where the special staff of this department is not working :—

Districts.	Number of wells.	Amount. Rs.
Anantapur	10	3,999
Cuddapah	4	2,200
Nellore	7	5,320
Kurnool	6	3,350
Guntur	1	1,234
Total ...	28	16,103

41. *Communications, burial grounds and other improvements.*—Pathways, bridges, etc., were provided in 86 cases at a cost of Rs. 11,426 and in 36 cases burial-grounds were provided at a cost of Rs. 4,358. The above cases include poramboke conversions also.

Madras Cheris.

42. A sum of Rs. 25,000 was sanctioned by Government for effecting sanitary and other improvements to the cheris in Madras City such as construction of latrines, washing platforms, installation of lights, drainage, metalling of streets, etc. A sum of Rs. 17,894 was spent during the year in the various cheris mentioned below :—

	Rs.
(1) Swaminaicken cheri	4,225
(2) Cockrane Basin cheri, (3) Katbada cheri	6,916
(4) Mottu cheri, (5) Thiruveethi Amman Koil cheri	4,563
(6) Doming Kuppam	2,190
Total ...	17,894

The whole allotment could not be utilized during the year owing to difficulty in getting the streets in some of the privately owned cheris declared to be 'public' which necessitated some of the estimates being held up for the current year.

Assignment of lands for depressed classes.

43. Quarterly statements showing the extent of land reserved and assigned for the depressed classes are received from the Collectors. Appendix III shows the progress made in the matter. The following are some of the important cases of assignment:—

Gōdāvari district.—A further extent of 3,567·43 acres of lanka land with an annual rental of Rs. 41,224 was leased out in 39 villages for one year to Adi-Andhra and fishermen societies. The total extent of the lanka land under the lease of the Adi-Andhras and fishermen is now about 8,882 acres bearing an annual rental of Rs. 1,16,476. Ninety-one societies hold these leases. This system of lease of lankas to Adi-Andhras and fishermen without auction is of incalculable value in the economic elevation of the individuals belonging to these societies.

268·55 acres of disafforested land of Murari, Rajahmundry taluk, were leased out to an Adi-Andhra society and 178·72 acres of unused porambokes in sixteen villages of Razole, Amalapuram and Ramachandrapuram taluks were leased out to Adi-Andhra and fishermen's societies and proposals for the lease of 260·06 acres were under correspondence at the end of the year. Proposals for grant to Adi-Andhras and hillmen of 469 acres of Rampayerrampalem and Tirumalayapalem of Rajahmundry taluk were also pending at the end of the year.

Kistna district.—The Collector leased acres 230·68 of lanka lands in Puligadda, Ellalanka and Vekanur to the depressed classes and fishermen on favourable terms through the medium of co-operative societies. These lankas yielded well and gave a good return to the lessees. This created a stir among the Adi-Andhras of other villages of the Divi taluk who eagerly sought for the lease of more lankas without auction. The leasing of lankas without auction has thus become one of the most attractive features of ameliorative work in the district. It may be expected to advance the economic condition of the Adi-Andhras enormously within a very short time at little expense to Government.

Guntūr district.—An extent of 300 acres of the disafforested reserve of Kolakalur, Tenali taluk, was granted by the Collector to an Adi-Andhra Tenants' Co-operative Society in 1923–24. An extent of 3,382 acres of Kistna river lankas was similarly granted on lease for two to three years to nineteen Co-operative Tenants' Societies in Tenali, Repalli and Guntūr taluks. In Bapatla taluk an extent of about 12,000 acres of disafforested reserves is available for assignment. The Collector has already recommended the assignment of 410 acres to the Adi-Andhras of Pamidivaripalem in Bapatla reserve, Blocks Nos. II and III, on cowle tenure and the orders of Government are awaited. The question of assignment of the remainder of the disafforested land is still under consideration.

Representation of depressed classes in local bodies.

44. Appendix IV shows the representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of this Presidency. The number of district boards, taluk boards and municipal councils that are not represented by any member of the depressed classes are 1, 29 and 15, respectively. Information regarding 3 district boards, 25 taluk boards and 4 municipal councils has not been received. The number of bodies represented by more than one member of the depressed classes has increased from 12 in March 1924 to 41 in March 1925.

Objection is frequently raised that there is no suitable member of the depressed classes who can be nominated to these bodies and to meet this argument, lists of suitable persons have been obtained from the Collectors concerned. It is now proposed to address the authorities concerned with reference to the lists urging the representation of the depressed classes on those local bodies which have no such members at present.

KALLARS.

45. A separate report on the reclamation of Kallars of Madura and Ramnad districts for the calendar year 1924 has already been submitted to Government. At the end of the year there were 175 co-operative societies. Nine industrial centres with 24 sections attached to them, 307 schools with a strength of about 8,715 (7,440 boys and 1,275 girls). As already stated by me this report is an account of another year of wonderful progress for which the greatest credit is due to Mr. Raja Ayyar and it is regrettable that he had to sever his connexion with the movement so soon.

46. It was mentioned in the previous report that a scheme for the reclamation of Kallars of Tanjore district had been sanctioned by Government. The work was started in June 1924 under the supervision of the District Superintendent of Police, Tanjore. An excellent start has been made by him and his assistant, and it is hoped that the proposals of the Inspector-General of Police to extend the scope of the reclamation work in Tanjore will be sanctioned by Government.

MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF CRIMINAL TRIBES SETTLEMENTS.

47. The Commissioner visited during the year almost all the settlements. As separate administration reports have already been submitted on each of the settlement I only include a brief summary here.

48. The population of the settlement on 31st March 1925, excluding O. Vs. and those in jail was as follows:—

Settlements.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Kulasekharapatnam	55	60	44	159
Aziznagar	207	345	406	958
Pallavaram	61	75	76	212
Perambur	71	68	88	227
Kavali	535	625	826	1,986
Sitanagaram	178	252	334	764
Stuartpuram	461	511	659	1,631
Siddhapuram	49	49	69	167

The management of Pallavaram, Perambur, Sitanagaram and Stuartpuram settlements is with the Salvation Army. The Kavali Reformatory settlement and the Kavali settlement including Allur and Bitragunta are managed by the American Baptist Mission and the Kulasekharapatnam settlement by Messrs. Parry & Co. The Aziznagar and Siddhapuram settlements are under Government management.

The year under report has been satisfactory as regards health of the settlers appendix V shows the proportion of births and deaths respectively to each 1,000 of the population. It will be seen that there is a considerable excess of births over deaths.

49. *Education.*—In each of the settlements, there is a school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The cost of maintaining the school is borne by Government. The following statement shows the number of children receiving education on 31st March 1925 in the schools attached to the settlements mentioned:—

Settlements.	Population.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Proportion of children to 1,000 of total population.
Kulasekharapatnam	159	16	8	24	150
Aziznagar	958	126	52	178	186
Pallavaram	212	27	20	47	222
Perambur	227	30	11	41	181
Sitanagaram	764	108	63	171	224
Stuartpuram	1,631	201	186	387	237
Kavali	1,986	240	197	437	220
Siddhapuram	167	23	17	40	240

Besides these schools, the Government have established under section 17 of the Criminal Tribes Act and under the management of the Salvation Army two Industrial schools—one for boys in Perambur and the other in Nellore for girls. The main

object of these schools is to provide a course of training which will enable the pupils to support themselves in after-life and thus remove the incentive to a life of crime.

The industries that are taught in the Perambur Industrial School are carpentry, tailoring and rattan work. The strength of the school at the end of the year was as follows :—

	Strength.
Carpentry	23
Tailoring	22
Rattan work	21

Most of the boys have done well in the classes and many useful articles have been made and sold. The profit from industries was Rs. 669-7-6 during the year.

50. *Co-operation.*—Co-operative societies have been formed only in two settlements, viz., Aziznagar and Sitanagaram. The society at Aziznagar granted loans amounting to Rs. 6,864 to 348 settlers.

During the year an advance of Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned to the Society at the Sitanagaram settlement for disbursement to the settlers to purchase agricultural implements, bulls, etc., for reclamation of the lanka allotted to them.

51. *Absconding and convictions.*—Appendix VI shows details of absconding and convictions in each of the settlements during the year. These figures are among the most important tests of the success or otherwise of settlement work. That during the year it was necessary to convict 101 settlers is a proof that the work of reformation is not yet complete. For permanent success we have to look in most cases to the younger generation.

52. *Releases.*—During the year 120 settlers of Sitanagaram and 93 of Stuartpuram were released from the settlement in consequence of good behaviour. Out of 120 settlers of Sitanagaram settlement, 65 persons have left the settlement and returned to their respective villages. The rest have remained in the settlement.

53. *Lambadis—Number of settlements, population, etc.*—The number of settlements in Vinukonda and Palnad taluks remained the same as in last year. There were no material changes in the population in the settlements in Vinukonda taluk. The settlement at Pillutla (Palnad taluk) is not in a flourishing condition. Though the number of families has increased the population has fallen from 100 to 79. This is due to the fact that several settlers went to outlying parts to earn their livelihood.

Cultivation and condition of crops.—There was a slight decrease in cultivation in Lawleypet thanda, and increase in the other two thandas of Vinukonda taluk. The uncultivated portion in Lawleypet was kept as pasture land, while that in the other two villages was left waste for want of timely rains. The crops in the cultivated portions gave a fair outturn. Steps are being taken to get the lands surveyed and make formal assignments. In order to afford more land for the adults in the settlement, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Narasaraopet, proposed the grant of about 400 acres in Guttikonda (ex, VIII) on forest pattas and the matter was referred to the District Forest Officer. In Pillutla settlement of Palnad taluk an extent of about 80 acres was cultivated and about 120 acres left waste. Except in about 15 acres which contain fairly good soil, the crop on the rest of the cultivated area was poor. The question of disafforestation and assignment of S. No. 961-B-1 which lies within the limits of Pillutla forest reserve will shortly be decided by the Assistant Conservator of Forests.

The wells in the settlements in Vinukonda taluk are in need of repairs. Allotment was recently sanctioned for the current year. The District Labour Officer will execute the repairs. There is a pucca masonry well at Pillutla which gave good supply of water and it is in use now.

Education.—All the settlements except the one at Pillutla have schools attached to them. The roofing of the buildings in Lawleypet and Chakrayapalem requires repairs and retiling. Steps were not taken for the opening of an elementary school at Sreeruknanipuram in the year under report. It will be done this year.

Indebtedness.—There has been a decrease this year also in the indebtedness of the three settlements in Vinukonda taluk. The indebtedness of the settlers of Pillutla has risen from Rs. 1,430 last year to Rs. 2,690 this year.

Conduct and behaviour.—The conduct of the settlers of all the settlements is reported to be satisfactory. But in the Chakrayapalem thanda five lambadies were charged with theft and bound over under the security sections.

General remarks.—On the whole the settlements in Vinukonda taluk are in a prosperous condition.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

54. The department remains temporary and is handicapped in securing good men to take the places of those who leave by this fact and also by the present scales of pay which are not attractive and do not compensate for lost chances of promotion and the easier life in the regular line. At the same time I am glad to testify that with very few exceptions the officials of the department have worked with zeal.

I am also glad to point out, when much is being alleged as to bitter feelings between the caste people and the depressed classes, that there are already signs of better relations between them in some districts. Good relations are certain to increase as the depressed classes improve economically and become better educated.

APPENDIX I.

Statement showing the principal strikes and lock-outs during the year 1924-25.

Serial number, occupation and locality.	Number of work people involved.	Date when dispute		Cause or object.	Progress and result.
		Began.	Ended.		
1. Scavengers of the Municipality of Cuddapah.	86	1924. 1st April.	1924. 4th May.	Protest against reduction of establishment.	Sixty Yanadis were imported from Nellore by the municipality and were actually employed in place of the strikers for about a month. The strikers thereupon offered an unconditional apology in writing and were re-employed on the municipality's own terms.
2. Scavengers of the Corporation of Madras.	1,629	20th April A.N.	22nd April A.N.	Demanded an increase in wages and supply of rice at four heaped measures a rupee.	They came back to work on being assured that their grievances, if any, would be redressed after due consideration.
3. Scavengers of the Port Trust, Madras.	75	21st April.	23rd April.	In sympathy with item 2 above. No demands.	They came back of their own accord.
4. Boatmen of the Port of Cuddalore.	600	8th May.	12th May.	As a protest against Messrs. Parry & Co.'s refusal to give any cargo to one of the private boat-owners. They also claimed more pay.	The strike ended through the influence of the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police. The men agreed to work on the old terms of pay and the private boat-owner was given his share of work.
5. Firemen on the metre gauge of the South Indian Railway, Madura, Tinnevelly, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Negapatam, Mayavaram, Villupuram, Madras and Chingleput.	521	29th May to 1st June.	1st June to 3rd June.	A dispute about the distance for which one fireman only was to be allowed for each engine.	The strike first took place at Madura on 29th May 1924 and speedily spread to the other loco. centres. The Agent discussed the matter with the men at Madura and they accepted the terms offered by him and resumed work on 1st June 1924. Intimation of the settlement at Madura was speedily followed by resumption of work in other places.
6. Railway workshop men, firemen and drivers on the Broad gauge of the South Indian Railway at Podanur, Mettupalaiyam and Salem.	1,824	1st June.	16th June.	As a protest against the Magisterial orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, served on Messrs. Varadarajulu Nayudu and Pakkiriswami Pillai who were to have attended a Conference of Railway Labourers at Coimbatore on 1st June 1924. The Magisterial order and the strike atmosphere on the metre gauge embittered the men.	Only a few came to the shops on 2nd June 1924 and the shops were therefore closed. The 3rd June was a holiday and a meeting was held and the men agreed to go back the next morning. On the 4th some were outside the shops ready to go in, but a majority of them did not go. The Agent, thereupon, issued orders to close the workshop and notified that their services with the company automatically terminated on that date and that if they were taken on again they would be treated as new hands. The situation remained unchanged till 12th June 1924 when Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, M.L.C., called on the Agent on behalf of the workmen and as a result of a discussion with him, the Agent proceeded to Coimbatore where on the 16th June he met the men in the presence of the Collector who was instrumental in bringing the strike to a close. The strikers were taken back on their old pay and the question of condoning the break in their service was to be decided by the Railway Home Board of Directors.

Statement showing the principal strikes and lock-outs during the year 1924-25—*cont.*

Serial number, occupation and locality.	Number of work people involved.	Date when dispute		Cause or object.	Progress and result.
		Began.	Ended.		
7. Agricultural labourers of Anatandavapuram village, Mayavaram taluk, Tanjore district.	200	1924. 22nd June.	1924. 16th July.	Having been dissatisfied with the share of the produce which they have been allowed for expenses of cultivation and labour.	A compromise was effected and their grievances partially redressed.
8. Scavengers of the Municipality of Trichinopoly.	621	12th August A.N.	13th August A.N.	Their demands related to pay, leave and better treatment in general.	The chairman had a personal conversation with many of the strikers and everyone of them disclaimed any intention on his part to go on strike, but they were forced to do so by certain men who urged them to do so. The strikers were said to have recognized that they were treated well generally. They resumed work unconditionally, their several demands being left in the hands of the chairman for consideration and recommendation to the council.
9. Scavengers of the Municipality of Madura.	767	10th September.	11th September.	They struck work clamouring for more pay.	The chairman of the municipality interviewed them and promised to consider their grievances after they resumed work. They accordingly resumed work and the chairman has allowed them an increase of pay by eight annas. The men were satisfied with this.
10. Drainage workmen of the Corporation of Madras.	355	16th September.	17th September.	Increase of pay, distribution of rice at four measures a rupee and casual leave during illness.	Their representative was told that proposals for improving their condition were before the council for sanction and the men returned to work on this assurance.
11. Weavers of the Lakshmi Vilasam Weaving Establishment, Cannanore.	63	27th September.	2nd October.	Owing to a dispute about wages.	The terms of settlement are not known. As a result of this strike, a weavers' association has been formed.
12. Rubbish and night-soil contractors and cart drivers of the Municipality of Madura.	218	1st October.	2nd October.	The drivers were not fully loading their carts. The municipality therefore fined the contractors who in turn fined the drivers. The drivers thereupon struck work.	The chairman told the contractors that the drivers must return to work before anything could be done. As the drivers did not return to duty still, the municipality began to remove rubbish and night-soils in its 'Austin' Tractor. The result was that the drivers returned to work on the morning of the next day.
13. Weavers of the Nellimarla Jute Mill, Nellimarla, Vizagapatam district.	2,515	30th October.	4th November.	Owing to the introduction of a new rule that absentees would be fined five annas for each day of absence, in addition to the pay for the day which they lose and to the dismissal of some weavers. Two hundred and ninety-four men struck work and the others were locked out.	The men were advised to return to work but did not do so as it was a festive season. They were interviewed on 3rd November 1924 and a settlement was arrived at. It was settled that (1) the cases of weavers recently dismissed be thoroughly enquired into and where found reasonable the men reinstated and (2) the question of the fine for absence without leave be placed before Messrs. Binny & Co., Limited, Madras, with a request that it be modified if at all possible.
14. Weavers of the Nellimarla Jute Mill, Nellimarla, Vizagapatam district.	247	1925. 2nd March.	1925. 11th March.	Cancellation of the rule that if any weaver absents himself without leave, he will lose five annas from his earnings.	The trouble has been the work of a few undesirables who have not been re-engaged. All weavers were dismissed after eight days' absence and new men engaged.

APPENDIX II.

Consolidated statement showing the number of labour schools, number of teachers and strength.

Name of district.	Number of schools at the beginning of the year.	Number of schools started during the year.	Total.				Number of teachers.			Number of pupils.		
			Day school.	Night school.	Combined day and night school.	Total.	Trained.	Untrained.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Tanjore	213	52	263	2	..	265	148	118	266	6,642	475	7,117
Gōdāvari	* 83	35	79	* 35	2	116	39	85	124	3,501	628	4,129
Chingleput	† 56	9	1	3	58	62	35	27	62	2,805	131	2,936
South Arcot	49	23	72	..	..	72	23	53	76	2,792	185	2,977
Kistna	‡ 14	5	11	4	3	18	14	1	15	456	191	647
Guntūr	7	3	10	..	..	10	13	2	15	242	179	421
Bellary	12	7	19	..	..	19	4	15	19	472	99	571
South Kanara	16	13	29	..	..	29	11	24	35	724	271	995
Madras	6	2	..	7	1	8	7	6	13	290	43	333
Salem	1		..	1	..	1	1	..	1		13	13
Trichinopoly	39	17	56	..	..	56	8	49	57	1,850	225	2,075
Total ..	496	166	540	52	64	656	303	380	683	19,774	2,440	22,214

* Two schools temporarily closed during the year.
† Three schools closed during the year.
‡ One night school transferred to Missionary management.

APPENDIX III.

Consolidated statement showing the area of lands reserved and assigned to the depressed classes up to 31st March 1925.

District.	Area of lands reserved.	Area of lands assigned.
	ACS.	ACS.
Anantapur	122,951·31	9,958·61
North Arcot	53,157·74	14,266·88
South Arcot	47,695 52	8,039·37
Bellary	46,698·21	15,321·11
South Kanara	18,062·42	474·23
Chingleput	9,978·15	2,723·95
Chittoor	13,428·68	2,430·12
Coimbatore	8,735·52	5,102·12
Cuddapah	51,075·62	10,288·04
Ganjam	8,048·12	2,099·68
Gōdāvari, East	10,409·16	2,419·29
Guntur	47,873·81	16,891·01
Kistna (Old)	22,636·28	9,784·09
Kurnool	62,621·00	15,914·00
Madura	19,086·91	4,756·26
Nellore	26,536·94	8,192·05
The Nilgiris	129·58	35·06
Ramnad	1,373·67	334·52
Salem	28,910·95	3,733·06
Tanjore	8,705·19	304·32
Tinnevelly	4,124·20	1,387·88
Trichinopoly	26,985·80	2,100·62
Vizagapatam	2,127·87	554·32

APPENDIX IV.

Statement showing the representation of the depressed classes in the local bodies of the Madras Presidency.

Name or class of local body.	Total number in the Madras Presidency.	Number represented by one member.	Number represented by two members.	Number represented by three members and more.	Number represented by none.	Number for which information has not yet been received.
District boards	24	12	5	3	1	3
Taluk boards	126	54	13	5	29	25
Municipal councils	80	46	10	5	15	4

APPENDIX V.

Statement showing the proportion of births and deaths in Criminal Tribes Settlements for the year ending 31st March 1925.

Name of the settlement.	Population.	Total births.	Total deaths.	Total births per 1,000.	Total deaths per 1,000.
Kulasekharapatnam	159	12	9	71	53
Aziznagar	958	40	27	42	28
Pallavaram	212	14	6	66	28
Perambur	227	12	8	53	35
Sitanagaram	764	16	15	20	19
Stuartpuram	1,631	79	49	48	30
Kavali	1,986	90	52	45	26
Siddhapuram	167	7	13	42	78

APPENDIX VI.

Absconders on 31st March 1925.

Settlement.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Kulasekharapatnam	1	1	1	3
Aziznagar	10	8	1	19
Pallavaram	..	..	..	..
Perambur	1	..	..	1
Sitanagaram	33	26	35	94
Stuartpuram	97	76	22	195
Kavali	189	38	35	262
Siddhapuram	4	5	..	9

Convictions from 1st April 1924 to 31st March 1925.

Settlement.	Criminal Tribes Act.		Indian Penal Code.				Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code.	
			Against property.		Other offences.			
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
Kulasekharapatnam	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Aziznagar	33	33	3	3	..	..	..	..
Pallavaram				Nil.				
Perambur				Not available.				
Sitanagaram	117	117	13	15	2	5	..	..
Stuartpuram			19	24	1	2	3	4
Kavali	13	13			2	4	1	1
Siddhapuram	9	9	..	..				

Order—No. 2914, Law (General), dated 21st September 1925.

Recorded.

2. The Government have read with interest the report submitted by the Commissioner of Labour on the working of the Labour department for the year 1924-25.

3. The Government note that except for the strike among firemen, drivers and workshop employees on certain sections of the South Indian Railway the labour situation was quiet during the year.

4. The activities of the department for improving the conditions of the depressed classes progressed satisfactorily during the year. During the year, 208 acres of patta lands were acquired for use as building sites and distributed among 3,674 applicants, the policy of assigning lands for cultivation to members of the depressed classes out of the extents reserved for them was continued; the co-operative movement received a large accession of strength, 334 societies having been formed in the

year for the acquisition of house-sites, for advancing loans to members and for joint cultivation and joint purchase and sale of stores—a noteworthy feature being the formation of societies for relieving the distress caused by the floods; and 166 new schools were started and the system of scholarships and fee remissions was extended.

5. Special mention should be made of the relief work undertaken by the Labour department, with the co-operation of non-official gentlemen and agencies, during the floods of July 1924 in the Tanjore district, in which Adi-Dravida villages in four taluks suffered. The Government sanctioned loans at favourable rates of interest and help was afforded to destitutes out of the 'common good' funds of co-operative societies and liberal private contributions. The officers of the department deserve credit for the organization of an efficient system of relief at short notice and its careful administration.

6. During the year the scheme for housing the labourers of Puliantope who were rendered homeless in the mill troubles of 1921 was taken up for execution and 44 houses are under construction in the site in DeCastor's road. The further proposals of the Commissioner of Labour under this head are under separate consideration.

7. The hostel for Adi-Dravida students at Madras which was started in December 1923 contained a total strength of 40 pupils in the year. The Government have recently sanctioned the opening of a similar hostel at Masulipatam for the benefit of Adi-Andhra students of the Northern Circars.

8. The Government have reviewed separately the work done for the reclamation of the Kallars. The criminal settlements continued to be administered satisfactorily.

9. In conclusion, the Government congratulate the Labour Commissioner on the successful administration of the department for another year. The thanks of Government are due to the Flood Relief Committees for the generous contribution made by them for relieving the distress among the members of the depressed classes caused by the recent floods and to the non-official gentlemen and associations who assisted the officers of the department in administering relief measures.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

V. T. Krishnama Achariyar,
Secretary to Government.

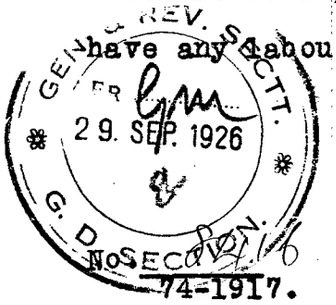
To the Commissioner of Labour.
,, Development, Revenue, Judicial, Local Self-Government, Law (Education) Departments
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Government of India (Department of Industries and Labour) (with C.L.).
Copy to the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union (Limited).
Editors' Table.

155.8

Letter No.485-Comr.R/XL-35, dated the 20th September 1926, from the Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bihar & Orissa, Revenue Department, Ranchi, to the Resident in - Mysore, Bangalore.

--:0:--

In reply to your letter No.7723 dated the 7th September 1926, I am directed by the Governor in Council to say that there is no separate Labour Department in this province, nor have any Labour Commissioners been appointed.



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Office of the Resident
in Mysore,
Bangalore, 28th September 1926.

Pol. 384

Copy forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, for information, with reference to his letter No. Pol.194/G.M., dated the 18th August 1926.

Major,
SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

The main file relating to this is before the Dewan. This has to be placed in the file on its return.

Letter No.3940/1820XIII dated Nagpur, the 22nd September 1926 from the Revenue Secretary to Government, Central Provinces -- Commerce and Industry Department, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

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Subject:- Reports of the Labour Department.

With reference to your letter No.7724/74-1917, dated the 7th September 1926, I am directed to say that no Labour Department has been constituted in this province.

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GEN. & REV. SECTT. ER 1 - OCT. 1926 G. D. SECTION.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,
BANGALORE.

Pol. 402

No. 8578

Dated 1st October 1926.

Copy forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, for information, with reference to his letter No.Pol.194/G.m., dated the 18th August 1926.

Major,
SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, ~~September~~ 5th October, 1926

No. 8621 Encls. 2
74 - 1917.

Pol. 421

A copy of the marginally* noted letter, with enclosure, is forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, for information, with reference to his letter No. Pol. 194/G.M., dated the 18th August 1926.

*No. 423/V25 dated the 23rd September 1926 from the Government of Burma, Home and Political Department.

Major
Secretary to the Resident.

P. O. 758. R. O. 25.—2,000.—2-10-1925.—R. P. B.

Letter No. 423V25, dated the 23rd. September 1926, from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of Burma (Home and Political Department), to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

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LABOUR STATISTICS BUREAU, BURMA.

With reference to your letter No.7726/74-1917, dated the 7th September 1926, I am directed to say that in the year 1924 Mr.J.B. Marshall,C.I.E.,I.C.S., was specially deputed by this Government to enquire into the question of establishing an agency for the collection of information relating to labour conditions in Burma. I am to forward, for the information of the Mysore Government, a copy of his Report which has received the general support of this Government.In accordance with its recommendations a Labour Statistics Bureau was constituted in July 1925 on a temporary basis with an Indian Civil Service Officer at its head and with a staff of 3 Investigators and the required clerical establishment. No report has yet been published by this Labour Statistics Bureau. The request of the Mysore Government to be supplied with copies of the publications that may be issued by the Bureau has been noted by this Government.

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" C O P Y "

REGISTRAR,RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Report by Mr. J. B. Marshall, C.I.E., I.C.S., on a proposal to institute a Labour Statistics Bureau in Burma.

In Great Britain I interviewed officials of the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Labour, officials of the Emigration Department of the Board of Trade, the London agents of the International Labour Office, and Mr. F. H. McLeod, C.B., Chairman of the Industrial Court. I corresponded with Mr. Findlay Shirras, and twice arranged to meet him in London but on both occasions the arrangement fell through. In India I visited Bombay, Madras, Waltair and Calcutta. I spent six days at the Bombay Labour Office, three days in Madras, one day in Waltair and one day in Calcutta.

The work done in Madras and Calcutta may be disposed of in a few sentences. In Calcutta there is a Labour Intelligence Officer who is also a Deputy Secretary in the Commerce Department. Only a very small portion of his time is taken up with labour questions and he has only one clerk for this branch of his work. This one clerk does not seem to have very much to do. A strike register is maintained, in which the magnitude, cause, course, and result of labour disputes are entered. There is no intervention or conciliation except in the case of disputes in connection with public utility services in or near Calcutta. For such disputes, a panel of non-officials has been constituted from which a conciliation board is selected by Government as occasion arises. Information is also collected by the Labour Intelligence Officer regarding the Trade Unions in the Presidency. Forms for the collection of a wage census were also sent out by this officer to employers, in accordance with the Government of India's instructions, but the returns were found to be of doubtful accuracy and no value. No cost of living index is prepared.

In Madras there is a Commissioner of Labour who is also Protector of the Depressed Classes. Most of his work is connected with the depressed classes and except for the Wage Census ordered by the Government of India he collects no statistics regarding labour or cost of living. He keeps himself informed of the course of labour disputes and sometimes intervenes informally.

In Bombay there is an elaborate and well staffed labour office. The Budget Estimate of the cost of this office for the coming year is Rs. 1,15,308. The actual expenditure is 1923-24 was Rs. 1,08,636. This does not include printing charges which are considerable. The Director is on a salary scale of Rs. 2,500—100—3,000 *plus* Rs. 150 conveyance allowance. Under him there are three Male Investigators and three Lady Investigators. The three male investigators are gazetted officers, one being on Rs. 650—50—900 per mensem, one on Rs. 350—50—500 per mensem and one on Rs. 275—15—350 per mensem. Two of the ladies draw Rs. 150 per mensem, and the third Rs. 75 per mensem. All six draw conveyance allowances. There are 18 clerks, on salaries varying from Rs. 60 to Rs. 300 and six peons. Five Comptometers (adding and multiplying machines) are used in the office, and proposals to instal Power's Electrical Sorting and Tabulating Machines, which are now being used in the Bombay Customs House with a great saving of labour are under consideration. With such machines the Director proposes to tabulate also statistics of all kinds (*e.g.* vital statistics, registration statistics, agriculturaal statistics) for other departments. They would also be of use at the next Census. The statistics collected in Bombay are as follows :—

(1) Movements of wholesale prices in Bombay and Karachi, which are reduced to an index number based on July 1914.

(2) Retail prices in Bombay, reduced to index numbers.

(3) Comparative retail prices in Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona.

(4) Working Classes Cost of Living Index for Bombay.

(5) European Classes Cost of Living Index for Bombay.

(6) Census of Wages and Hours of Labour in Cotton Mills, taken in 1921 and 1923.

(7) Census of Agricultural Wages from 1900 to 1923, now being carried back to 1887.

(8) Census of Wages of Clerical and Menial staffs of officers in Bombay.

(9) Census of Wages of Municipal Servants and Skilled Labourers in municipalities.

(10) Rent statistics for all classes of tenants in Bombay and Ahmedabad.

(11) Collection of Working Class Family Budgets.

(12) Collection of Middle Class Family Budgets.

(13) General enquiries regarding health and safety of workers, industrial welfare, maternity benefits, utilisation of workers' spare time.

(14) Statistics of employment and absenteeism.

(15) Information regarding the magnitude, causes, course and results of labour disputes.

(16) Information regarding trade unions.

(17) General information regarding trade and business conditions, including statistics of prices of securities reduced to an index number.

In Bombay and Ahmedabad most of these statistics are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office personally but in some cases prices are taken from reliable publications. For example, the price of coal is taken from the "Current Quotations" published weekly by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, and the price of certain kinds of cloth is taken from the weekly statement of "Current Quotations of Local Made Piece Goods and Yarns" published by the Mill-owners Association. For other towns the Director of Agriculture's price figures are used. It is intended however to increase the staff of Labour Office Investigators for work in Karachi and Sholapur. Wages statistics are collected on forms sent out to employers. The statistics when collected are sorted and tabulated by statistical clerks in the Labour Office. The work is very laborious and mechanical aids of some kind, such as the Comptometers used in the Bombay Labour Office, are almost a necessity.

It is proposed to construct a cost of living index series for Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur as well as Bombay, as it is believed that the figure for Bombay, is not a reliable index of cost of living in those other centres. It is also intended to extend the collection of statistics of wages and and hours of labour to other occupations.

The Bombay Labour Office does not intervene in labour disputes. When the office was opened, it was apparently intended that the Director, as he gained knowledge and experience of labour conditions would become a suitable person to act as an arbitrator or conciliator and bring about a settlement of strikes, but the orders on the point were somewhat ambiguous, and it is now recognized that his function in such cases is that of principal witness, not of judge, and that if he intervenes he may antagonize one side or the other, and imperil the accuracy of the statistics which he collects. It is important that the Director should be on friendly terms with both capital and labour, if possible.

The office publishes monthly a Bombay Labour Gazette, and much of the Director's time is taken up with the editorial work connected with this publication. The regular monthly statistics collected by the office are published in this Gazette, special reports being published separately in book form. The Gazette also contains statistics of accidents and prosecutions supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories articles on labour questions, and general intelligence regarding labour matters both in India and in foreign countries.

The Labour Office also drafts bills on labour subjects for the Government and advises Government regarding all labour questions.

In Great Britain the Statistics Branch of the Ministry of Labour collects statistics of cost of living, wages, hours of labour, employment and unemployment, labour disputes, trade unions, employers' associations, co-operation and profit-sharing. The information collected is published monthly in the Ministry of Labour Gazette. A quite separate branch of the Ministry deals with the

ttlement of industrial disputes. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries ieals with agricultural labour and rural industries. The Ministry of Health deals with housing, poor law. and insurance, and the Home Office deals with Factory Inspection, health and safety of workers and workmen's compensation. Statistics of emigration and immigration are kept by the Board of Trade, which also deals with labour in the Mining and Shipping Industries. Railway labour is dealt with by the Ministry of Transport.

A large part of the Ministry of Labour Gazette is taken up with statistics of unemployment and details regarding unemployment in the principal industries. Statistics of employment are received from employers, Trade Unions and the Employment Exchanges. Reports of changes in rates of wages are received both from employers and from Trade Unions and from the Ministry's correspondents in various centres. Prices are reported by selected retailers. Agreements between Employers and Trade Unions are sent to the Ministry for record. International labour intelligence is also published in the Gazette.

Burma's immediate want is sufficient information regarding real wages and conditions of labour to facilitate agreement between capital and labour without recourse to strikes and lockouts, and to enable both Government and the public to appreciate the merits of labour disputes when they occur. Apart from this purely domestic need, it is probable that the requests of the League of Nations International Labour Office for labour statistics of all kinds will become more pressing and will necessitate some kind of permanent provincial organization for the collection of labour statistics. In this connection the Preamble to Part XIII (which provided for the establishment of an International Labour Office) of the Treaty of Versailles is worth quoting in full. It is as follows :—

"Whereas the League of Nations has for its object the establishment of universal peace, and such a peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice ;

"And whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, hardship and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperilled; and an improvement of those conditions is urgently required; as, for example, by the regulation of the hours of work, including the establishment of a maximum working day and week, the regulation of the labour supply, the prevention of unemployment, the provision of an adequate living wage, the protection of the worker against sickness, disease and injury arising out of his employment, the protection of children, young persons and women, the provision for old age and injury, protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own, recognition of the principle of freedom of association, the organisition of vocational and technical education and other measures ;

"Whereas also the failure of any nation to adopt humane conditions of labour is an obstacle in the way of other nations which desire to improve the conditions in their own countries ;

"The HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES, moved by sentiments of justice and humanity as well as by the desire to secure the permanent peace of the world, agree to the following :—"

Part of Article 23 of Part I (the covenant of the League of Nations) of the Treaty of Versailles may also be quoted :—

"Subject to, and in accordance with the provisions of international conventions existing or hereafter to be agreed upon, the Members of the League —

(*a*) will endeavour to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labour for men, women and children, both in their own countries and in all countries to which their commercial and industrial relations extend, and for that purpose will establish and maintain the necessary international organisation."

India was one of the High Contracting Parties and India has a representative on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. The International Labour Office has already been asking for statistics from its

members regarding wages, cost of living, classification of occupations and industries, emigration and immigration, and so on. Opinions may differ regarding the value of the work that has been done but it is fairly certain that the International Labour Office will be just as permanent a feature of international intercourse as the League of Nations itself and that it will become more and more difficult for a member to refrain from participation in the collection and publication of detailed labour statistics. It is also difficult to see how a Member of the League can "endeavour to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labour," without establishing an office to collect statistical and other information regarding existing labour conditions.

Meantime Burma's domestic needs in the matter are more pressing. There have been two big strikes in recent years, one among the shipping coolies at the docks, and one among the Burman employees at the oil-fields. Increased wages and shorter hours were demanded, and allegations were made regarding unsatisfactory conditions of labour and recruitment. The need for statistics of cost of living and other information regarding labour was badly felt on the occasion of these strikes. The results of an *ad hoc* enquiry during the course of a dispute are looked upon with more suspicion than would be the case with statistics collected at regular intervals in normal conditions. Further the immediate cause of the strike of shipping coolies was believed to be a rumour that Calcutta coolies had received an increase of pay. A provincial labour office would keep itself informed of any such increases in another province and would be in a position to contradict or confirm such rumours as they arose.

Labour disputes are not likely to decrease in numbers or importance. Famines are things of the past. The death rate from plague and other diseases has fallen greatly. There is every reason to expect a rapid increase in India's population in the next two decades. In such circumstances there will be a strong tendency for the real wages of labour to fall, with consequent grave discontent. We may even have industrial unemployment. An efficient labour office will then become an absolute necessity.

Inaccurate and misleading statistics are much worse than useless,—they are really dangerous. Good statistics are expensive. In the first place the statistics have to be collected in sufficiently large quantities to make the results reliable and representative. This involves a large staff. In the second place the details collected have to be as accurate as possible. This involves a well paid investigating staff. We want men (and women too if possible) of great tact and persuasiveness, conscientious and intelligent. We want to avoid employing the man who will sit in his house or office and send his peon to collect the statistics, or the man who will accept any statement made to him as gospel truth no matter how absurd it may be, or the man who entertains preconceived ideas on the matter under investigation and obtains, by leading questions or otherwise, statistics in support of these ideas. Finally, the statistics when collected have to be put together and presented scientifically so that correct conclusions may be drawn from them. This involves a well educated head of the office, preferably a mathematician able to understand and apply modern statistical methods.

The following statistics should be collected in Burma :—

(1) Movements of prices.
(2) Wages in various occupations and localities.
(3) Family budgets for various classes and localities.
(4) Cost of living index for various classes and localities.
(5) Rent.
(6) Hours and conditions of labour.
(7) Conditions of recruitment.
(8) Immigration and Emigration.
(9) Trade Unions.
(10) Industrial Disputes.

A beginning could be made with a statistical examination of such figures as are available and believed to be reliable, *e.g.* immigration, emigration, wholesale and retail prices and census figures. Arrangements must be made also

for the collection of retail prices to be done as accurately as possible in future. Meantime employers have to be approached personally and their assistance invoked in order to get an accurate and complete census of wages. Investigators can collect family budgets and an independent enquiry regarding conditions of recruitment should be initiated. Information regarding labour disputes may be collected as they occur. I do not think that the head of the Labour Office should take any part in conciliation, and in any case, if the Government of India's draft Bill for the settlement of labour disputes, now under consideration passes into law, conciliation will be the function of a board chosen from 3 panels. Information with regard to Trade Unions may also be collected. In this connection also the Government of India have prepared a draft Bill for the Registration of Trade Unions, and if that bill becomes law, the head of the Labour Office would be a suitable person to be appointed Registrar of Trade Unions. It should not be necessary at present to establish any Employment Bureau.

It is not necessary to publish anything so elaborate as the *Bombay Labour Gazette.* Concise statistical information could be published in the Supplement to the *Burma Gazette.* Longer reports on special investigations may be issued as Bulletins. Those people in Burma who wish to get information regarding labour and labour conditions in India and other countries can be advised to subscribe to the *Bombay Labour Gazette.*

The question of a cost of living index requires a special note. There are three methods of preparing a cost of living index, namely, the aggregate expenditure method, the standard budget method, and the theoretical budget method. The aggregate expenditure method, also called the method of mass units, consists in using weights based on the total consumption by the whole community of the commodities selected. The theoretical arguments in favour of this method were annihilated by His Honour Sir Reginald Craddock in a note which was forwarded to the Government of India with Revenue Secretary's letter No. 474M.—5A.-6, dated the 24th May 1921. Briefly put, the arguments for the method were that the figures to be used could be determined without a lengthy preliminary enquiry, and that even if the weighting was not accurate this would not have much effect on the final result, while Sir Reginald Craddock's reply was that in the first place the figures selected for some of the items, *e.g.*, rent, milk, beef, were necessarily wild guesses, and in the second place while it is true that errors in the weighting of a few items would make little difference to the final result, errors in the weighting of all the items would make a considerable difference and there is no guarantee that any item in the calculation will give a really accurate representation of the facts as regards any particular class or locality. For example, the *Bombay Labour Gazette* for October gives a Cost of Living Index figure of 160 for both August 1924 and September 1924. By varying the mass units, without going outside the bounds of probability, I have found it possible to get an index number of 171·4 for August and 169·9 for September, or taking the nearest integer, 171 for August and 170 for September. Thus not only do we get a very big difference of 11 points in the index number itself, but we get a fall in the index from one month to the next, instead of a stationary figure, so that it it is not even true to say that movements will always be in the same direction.

The standard budget method is the most satisfactory method of measuring changes in the cost of living of any class or in any locality but it cannot be applied until a large number of family budgets have been carefully collected and statistically examined. The theoretical budget method consists in determing the relative importance of the food items by taking into consideration their nutritive values and the minimum quantities necessary satisfactorily to maintain human life. These items are then applied to the average working class family as determined by the census, and weighted accordingly. This method is of value only in relation to food and for other items some other method has to be adopted.

The aggregate expenditure method has been tried in Bombay and found wanting, and it is now proposed to introduce a new index on the family budget method based on the full enquiry recently held into working class budgets in

Bombay. The officiating Director, Labour Office, Bombay advised me that no cost of living index should be published at all by the Burma Labour Office until family budgets had been collected and examined. An index not on a sound basis is liable to be misinterpreted and adversely critcized, and to convey an unfavourable impression of the work being done in the office. It is much better to begin with simple index numbers of wholesale and retail prices taking either a simple arithmetical or geometrical average of price relatives, or giving an indirect weighting by quoting prices of several qualities for the more important commodities, or a rough direct weighting according to the quantities believed to be put on the market. This would give a general indication of changes in the purchasing power of money, without reference to the cost of living of any particular class.

Other problems regarding a cost of living index will have to be dealt with as they arise. The standard of living of the Burman labourers in the Oil-fields is vastly different from that of the Telugu Dock labourer in Rangoon, and it will have to be decided how many index numbers should be maintained. Changes in the standard of living may necessitate fresh enquiries with a view to changing the items of the index and their weights, and the problem of how to maintain the continuity of the series in such circumstances will then have to be discussed.

For the work outlined above, I consider the following staff an absolute minimum :—

Staff and Cost.

	Average cost per annum. Rs.
(1) The head of the office. ... ... To begin with a member of the I.C.S. or I.E.S., with a knowledge of statistical methods. Might subsequently be replaced by promotion of one of the investigators who could then be given a salary of Rs. 1,000—50—1,500.	27,156 (Pay of Deputy Commissioner *plus* Burma Allowance, Rangoon Allowance and Overseas pay).
(2) Three Investigators, one on Rs. 650—50—900 *plus* Rs. 50 Conveyance Allowance, one on Rs. 350—50—500 *plus* Rs. 50 Conveyance Allowance and one on Rs. 275—15—350 *plus* Rs. 50 Conveyance Allowance.	19,950
(3) Clerks, three Upper Division Clerks on Rs. 125—10—235—15—325.	8,100
Clerks, three Lower Division Clerks on 60—5—150 (Development Commissioner's Office scale).	3,780
One Stenographer Typist on Rs. 175—10—275 ...	2,694
(4) Five Peons	1,176
(5) Supplies and Services, Contingencies, Service Postage and Telegrams, Office expenses and miscellaneous, Furniture, Books, Calculating machines.	6,000
(6) Travelling Allowances	1,144
	70,000

The actual cost would be less than this at the outset owing to most of the staff being on initial rates of salary, and the cost would decrease again after, say, two years if the Imperial Service Officer at the head of the office can then be replaced by a promoted Investigator on lower pay. The Bombay office started with three Investigators, three clerks and one stenographer, but it was soon found that this clerical staff was quite inadequate and there is now more than enough work for the 18 clerks employed. I have thought it best to estimate for a staff of six clerks in order not to convey an inadequate idea of the size of office required. For the first few months, until the statistical material being collected by the investigators is ready for examination, the full establishment need not be employed. The full clerical establishment will never need to be so big as in Bombay as it is not intended to publish a Labour Gazette.

The cost to the Province of a strike of any magnitude is difficult to estimate, but it is probably so very large that the prevention of a few strikes would suffice to justify the expenditure on a labour office for many years.

The investigators should if possible be University graduates, trained in Mathematics, Economics and Statistics, and good linguists. They should be required to pass examinations in Telugu and other languages spoken by

imported labour. Two of them would work on family budgets and one would begin with conditions of recruitment. If a suitable lady could be found, one might be a lady. The office would be a branch of the Development Commissioner's office and the head of the office would be an Additional Secretary to the Development Commissioner for all matters connected with labour.

The original head of the office would have to be a man of sufficient standing to obtain the good will of employers in connection with the collection of statistics, and of sufficient ability to see that the work is commenced on the right lines. Once the work is in good running order, however, there should not be enough work to justify a highly paid officer at the head of it, provided the office continued to be a part of the Development Commissioner's office, and provided no other functions were added.

The Retrenchment Committee pointed out that if the office of the Development Commissioner were to be abolished it would undoubtedly be necessary to revive the separate post of Director of Industries. In such an event the Director of Industries could also be the head of the labour office, and would deal direct with Government as head of a new Department of Labour and Industries. Somewhat similar proposals are under consideration in Bombay now. Even if the appointment of Director of Industries is not revived some of the functions which he exercised (*e.g.*, Control of Factory and Boiler Inspections) might be transferred to the head of the labour office who could then continue to be an officer of standing. There is a Superintendent of Cottage Industries, who works under the Co-operative Department. There seems no reason why the holder of this appointment should not be also the officer in charge of the labour office, while maintaining close touch with the Co-operative Department. It is true that he is also a Joint-Registrar of Co-operative Societies and has to register and control industrial Co-operative Societies, but the Colonization Officer also, who is now independent of the Co-operative Department, has similarly to register and control Co-operative Societies in his colonies. The Superintendent of Cottage Industries, as Director of Labour and Industries, could be the head of the Labour Office, Controlling Officer for Factory and Boiler Inspections, and Registrar of Industrial Co-operative Societies, without being overworked.

As another alternative, the Labour Office might form a branch of an up-to-date Provincial Statistics Office, which would be furnished with Power's Electrical Sorting and Tabulating Machinery and would deal with the statistics of all departments and also conduct the decennial census. I have little hope of this suggestion meeting with approval and refrain from elaborating it.

A word of warning is necessary. The Labour Office will have to be in working order for about five years before the results will be really valuable. In Bombay there seems to have been some idea that with the opening of a Labour Office the millennium had arrived. The labourers thought their conditions would improve and the employers thought there would be no more strikes. This optimism has been followed by an inevitable reaction.

One more question may be mentioned. In Bombay Legislative Council a bill has been introduced to make it compulsory for employers to furnish such statistical information regarding labour as may be necessary for the purposes of the Labour Office. This has met with considerable opposition from employers, both European and Indian, and is still under discussion. If it had been introduced several years ago when the Labour Office was first opened it is probable it would have been passed easily. The question is whether such legislation should be introduced here now. I think it should not. It might antagonize public opinion about the Labour Office from the outset. There is a risk that we may not be able to get the statistics we want, and that it may be more difficult to pass legislation for compulsory statistics at some future date, but it is better to take this risk.

My original official orders were to prepare a scheme for a Labour Statistics Bureau for Burma. In subsequent demi-official correspondence it was suggested that I should conduct some enquiries into the condition of labour and labour recruitment in Rangoon. It is much better that this should be

done after the Labour Office has been opened. I have no staff, and I understand it is not intended to sanction even the nucleus of a labour office staff until my recommendations have been fully considered by Government. Careful enquiries from a large number of coolies preferably by an officer who can speak Telugu and other languages, would be necessary before information could be obtained. Casual enquiries, such as I have been able to make in Madras and Waltair, are useless and might lead to erroneous conclusions. I found very little interest taken in the Madras Presidency with regard to the emigration of coolies to Burma. Two district officers informed me they had had no complaints but the Collector of Waltair said he would have further enquiries made through his Tahsildars, the results of which have not yet come to hand. The deck passenger traffic between the Madras Ports and Burma is so enormous that the conditions of labour here must be very well known. I am informed that many coolies come again and again, and I am also informed that the majority pay for their own passages. Much of the recruiting is done by agents of the Steamship Company, who are really passage ticket agents, selling tickets in the villages on payment of a small deposit, the balance being payable at the port of embarkation These recruiters are paid by the Steamship Company a commission on the number of steamer tickets sold. Mr. Pulvertaft, the agent of the Coromandel Company at Vizagapatam, who knows Telugu and showed considerable interest in the question, informed me that he would make personal enquiries from the coolies in the next batch to come across regarding the advances they had received and the contracts they had signed but the results of this enquiry have also not yet come to hand.

In Madras, I also interviewed Mr. Fonseca of the Colonial Civil Service, Immigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and Malay States, who explained to me the system adopted to recruit labour for these colonies. It seems unnecessary to give details of this system here. There is sufficient information available regarding it in the Development Commissioner's Office to enable a future Director of the Labour Office, after an enquiry into the conditions of recruitment of labour for Burma, to recommend a similar scheme for this province if he thinks fit.

J. B. MARSHALL,
5-12-1924.
Officer on Special Duty

G.B.C.P.O.—No. 830, C. Secy, 16-1-1925—75

Proceedings of the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

...

Order No. 1267-1317/C.B.84-26-2

Dated, (Camp) Mysore, 11th Oct. 1926

In view of the steady expansion of industrial undertakings in the State and the increasing complexity and importance of the problems concerning labour, Government consider it desirable to appoint a central authority for dealing with problems connected with the condition of labour ~~for~~ the amelioration of the classes from which it is generally drawn and for collecting statistical and other information relating thereto such as emigration, wages and kindred matters It will also be an advantage to arrange for a periodical inspection of factories by officers having the requisite technical knowledge. Government are accordingly pleased to assign the duties ~~relating thereto~~ to the Department of Industries & Commerce. The functions to be exercised in this connection fall under the following heads:--

(1) The study of economic conditions of labour and formulation of proposals in regard to their betterment.

(2) The wage census and keeping in touch with the wages question throughout the year.

P. T. O.

(3) The administration of the Factorys Regulation Act including the inspection of Factories and questions connected with hours of labour overcrowding, sanitation and such other matters affecting the welfare of labourers. and (4) Emigration of labour.

2. The Director of Industries & Commerce will be made responsible hereafter for the discharge of all duties relating to the matters referred to above. That officer will examine the arrangements now in force and submit proposals for coordinating the duties assigned to various authorities under the existing regulations and rules. He will also make suitable arrangements, obtaining the orders of Govt in cases where this is necessary, for getting from local officers and from the employers of labour information under the heads referred to. He will further be responsible for keeping Govt. informed in time of any ~~developments among labourers generally~~ Situation relating to that may call for the adoption of ~~any extraordinary~~ Special measures.

3. Govt. desire that officers of the various departments dealing with questions connected with labour should give all necessary facilities to the Director of Ind. & Com., for carrying out the duties now assigned to him. The Director, Ind. & Com. is requested to include in the annual

report of the administration of his department, in future, a special section indicating the work done by him in ~~consequence of~~ accordance with the instructions issued above.

Chief Secretary to Govt.
10/10/26

Mule
11/10/26

To

The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Dists.
Legislative Govt.

MRN.

S. O. G.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Order No. 1267-1317—C.B. 84-26-2, Dated Camp, Mysore, 11th October 1926.

Problems connected with Labour and the Inspections of Factories.

Assigns to the Department of Industries and Commerce the duties of dealing with ——

ORDER NO. 1267-1317—C.B. 84-26-2, DATED CAMP, MYSORE,
11TH OCTOBER 1926.

In view of the steady expansion of industrial undertakings in the State and the increasing complexity and importance of the problems concerning labour, Government consider it desirable to appoint a central authority for dealing with problems connected with the condition of labour and the amelioration of the classes from which it is generally drawn and for collecting statistical and other information relating thereto such as emigration, wages and kindred matters. It will also be an advantage to arrange for a periodical inspection of factories by officers having the requisite technical knowledge. Government are accordingly pleased to assign these duties to the Department of Industries and Commerce.

2. The functions to be exercised in this connection fall under the following heads:—

(1) The study of economic conditions of labour and formulation of proposals in regard to their betterment,

(2) The wage census and keeping in touch with the wages question throughout the year,

(3) The administration of the Factories Regulation including the inspection of factories and questions connected with hours of labour, overcrowding, sanitation and such other matters affecting the welfare of labourers, and

(4) Emigration of labour.

3. The Director of Industries and Commerce will be made responsible hereafter for the discharge of all duties relating to the matters referred to above. That officer will examine the arrangements now in force and submit proposals for co-ordinating the duties assigned to various authorities under the existing regulations and rules. He will also make suitable arrangements, obtaining the orders of Government in cases where this is necessary, for getting from local officers and from the employers of labour information under the heads referred to. He will further be responsible for keeping Government informed in time of any situation relating to labour that may call for the adoption of special measures.

4. Government desire that officers of the various departments dealing with questions connected with labour should give all necessary facilities to the Director of Industries and Commerce for carrying out the duties now assigned to him. The Director of Industries and Commerce is requested to include in the annual report of the administration of his department, in future, a special section indicating the work done by him in accordance with the instructions issued above.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Secretaries to Government.

WD 446—GBPM—300—13-10-26.

Proceedings of the Government of H. H.
the Maharaja of Mysore.

...

Order No. 1318-68/C.S. 84-26-3

Dated, (Camp) Mysore, 11th Oct. 1926

Government in their order No. 1267-1317 C.S. 84-26-2 dated 11th Oct. 1926 have assigned to the Director of Ind. & Com. the duties connected with the employment of labour in Factories and those that concern the improvement of labour and the condition of workers generally.

2. The work of the amelioration of the classes from which labour is drawn is now part of the normal activities of the several departments of the Administration. Some special facilities have, however, been provided in the State for sometime for imparting general and vocational education to two of the labouring classes which are known as the Depressed Classes and for the spread of the co-operative movement among them and the improvement of their economic condition. Govt consider that the departments concerned should continue to be responsible to carry out all such measures. They feel, however, that somewhat more rapid and better results may be attained by directing the officer intimately connected with these improvements to keep himself in touch with what is being done in the various departments for these classes and co-ordinate the measures adopted for their economic improvement.

They are therefore pleased to assign this work to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. This officer will, in consultation with the Departments concerned, attend to all such questions for the betterment of these classes as relate to housing, relief of indebtedness, improvement of their habits, social morals and customs, the formation of agricultural colonies, land settlements, and the starting of special Co-operative Societies for industrial and other purposes.

3. Govt. desire that officers of the various departments dealing with questions connected with labour and the depressed classes should give all necessary facilities to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for carrying out the duties now assigned to him. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is requested to include in the annual reports of the Administration of the department in future a special section indicating the work done by him in consequence of the instructions issued above.

Chief Secretary to Govt.

To

All Heads of Departments.

Deputy Commissioners of Dists.

MRN

S. O. G.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Order No. 1318-68—C.B. 84-26-3, Dated Camp, Mysore, 11th October 1926.

Amelioration of the Labour Communities.

Passes orders in regard to the——and assigns to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies certain functions in this respect.

ORDER NO. 1318-68—C.B. 84-26-3, DATED CAMP, MYSORE, 11TH OCTOBER 1926.

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P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Secretaries to Government.

WD 443—GBPM—300—13-10-26

S. O. G.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

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P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Secretaries to Government.

WD 443—GBPM—300—13-10-26

S. O. G.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

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P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Heads of Departments.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Secretaries to Government.

WD 443—GBPM—300—13-10-26

G. 3142

Letter No.1229-R(S), dated the 2nd October 1926, from the - Financial Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Punjab, Development Department, Simla, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

--:0:--

In reply to your letter No.7722/74-1917, dated the 7th September 1926, I am directed to state for the information of the Mysore Government that there is no separate Labour Department nor are there any Labour - Commissioners in the Punjab. Questions affecting labour are dealt with under the orders of Government by a Director of Industries assisted by a Factory Inspector and 6 Industrial Surveyors who are also part time Additional Factory Inspectors. In addition to this staff Government has appointed the District Magistrate, or in a few districts the Senior - Subordinate Judge, as Commissioners under the Workmen's Compensation Act whose functions and powers are regulated by the provisions of the said Act. Matters concerning labour are noticed, so far as relevant, in the annual reports of the province on the working of the Indian Factories Act 1911 and the Workmens' Compensation Act 1923, copies of which, if required, can be had direct on payment from the Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab, Lahore.

91

GEN. & REV. SECT. DR G.M. 23. OCT. 1926 G. D. SECTION.

---:0:---

Pol. 472

No. 9141. Office of the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, 22nd October 1926.

Copy forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, for information, with reference to his letter No. Pol.194/G.M., dated the 18th August 1926.

K Ramu-Gordon Major

SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

+Subd

The connected file was received in the Records on 28/9/26 with diary no. 2393.

This may be referred to the Revenue Branch as all questions connected with the employment and improvement of labour are dealt with by the Dist. Offrs. PN The info was got from the Resy with a view to organise the work on the lines of the Labour Dept under Commrs in the provinces. NW 25/10/26

MSR 25/10/26

E

G.O. No. 1267-1317-CB 82-26-2 dt 11/10/26

2389 N.

From Secy to C with Compliments 27/10

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

D. No. 2299 19192

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 23rd Oct. *192*6.

No. 9165 Encls. 4
74-1917.

G. 3143

Pol. 470.

POLITICAL & F.EV. SECTT.
G.M.
23. OCT. 1926
G. D. SECTION.

A copy of the marginally* noted paper, is forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, for information, in continuation of Memorandum from this office No. 8621, dated the 5th October 1926.

1. No.O/12867/D, dated the 30th September 1926, from the Government of Bombay, General Department with enclosures.
2. No.5383 F.M., dated the 27th September 1926, from the Government of Assam, Finance Department.

Sub — The connected file was sent to the Govt on 28/9/26 with Dy. No. 2393. These papers may perhaps be returned to the Doc Branch.

25/10/26

for Secretary to the Resident.

P. O. 758, R. O. 25.—2,000.—2-10-1925.—R. P. B.

Letter No.0/12867/D., dated the 30th September 1926, from the Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, ~~in~~ General Department, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

--:0:--

Certain information regarding the Bombay Labour Office.

With reference to your letter No.7719-74-1917, dated the 7th September 1926, I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward herewith copies of the documents specified in the margin which furnish the information regarding the constitution etc. of the labour office in the Bombay Presidency.

Home Department (Poll) Resolution No.225-Poll, dated the 29th April 1921 and No.234-Poll. dated the 8th February 1924 and Press Note issued in April 1921.

The independent post of the Director, Labour Office has since been abolished and the Director of Information who is now designated - Director of Information and Labour Intelligence supervises the work of that office and in this respect is under the control of the General Department. No annual report is published on the working of the Bombay Labour Office but a monthly Labour Gazette is issued by the Labour Office containing information on labour intelligence etc. Copies of the Labour Gazette can be had from the Editor, Labour Gazette, Secretariat, Bombay on payment of Rupee one per copy.

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" C O P Y "

REGISTRAR RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Labour Office.

Establishment of a - under the Government of Bombay.

Government of Bombay.
Home Department (Political)
Resolution No.225-Poll.
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay,
Dated the 29th April 1921.

A Labour Office has, with the approval of the Secretary of State, been established to deal with the following matters:-

(1) LABOUR STATISTICS AND INTELLIGENCE.- These relate to the conditions under which labour works and include information relating to the cost of living, wages, hours of labour, family budgets, ~~xxxxxxx~~ strikes and lockouts, and similar matters;

(ii) INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.- As experience and knowledge are gained and the activities of the Labour Office develop, it will promote the settlement of industrial disputes when these arise; and

(iii) Legislation and other matters relating to Labour.- The labour office will advise Government from time to time as regards necessary new legislation or the amendment of existing laws.

2. The new Labour Office will be presided over by an officer under the title of Director, Labour Office. In this capacity he will not be a member of the Secretariat staff,,but an independent officer who will publish his compilations and reviews in his own name and on his own responsibility. He and his establishment will be officially controlled by the Home Department. The Director, however, has been given authority to correspond directly on technical matters(e.g. on wages and on prices) not involving any large commitments for new work or expenditure with departments other than that to which he is directly subordinate..

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council has appointed as Director Mr.G. Findlay Shirras,M. A., F. S. S., I. E. S., Director of Statistics Government of India. He will be assisted by investigators and the usual office staff as well as by honorary correspondents of the Labour Office. The address of the Labour Office is the Secretariat, Bombay. The Telegraphic address will be "Bomlabour".

J.CRERAR,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

Order

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded for information and guidance to all Departments of the Secretariat and to Heads of Departments under the several Departments of the Secretariat.

By order of the Governor in Council,

Sd/- G. Wiles,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department.

To

The Director, Labour Office.

The Director of Information, Bombay.

All Heads of Offices under the several Departments of the Secretariat,

All Departments of the Secretariat.

Labour Office.

Official Correspondence by the Director.-------

Government of Bombay,
Home Department,
(Political) No.234-Poll.
Bombay Castle, 8th February 1924.

RESOLUTION.

In supersession of the orders contained in the last sentence of paragraph 2 of Government Resolution No. 225-Poll,dated the 29th April 1921, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that in future the Director, Labour Office, Bombay, should address Government officially in all matters requiring the official orders or sanction of Government and that except in reply to an unofficial reference from any department of the Secretariat, the Director, Labour Office, should not refer any matter to Government by an unofficial reference.

By order of the Governor in Council

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department.

To

The Director, Labour Office.
The Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor.
All Departments of the Secretariat.

Press Note issued in April 1921.

THE FUNCTIONS OF LABOUR OFFICE.

A Labour Office has now been established by Government and it may be general interest to employers and employed to have a brief statement showing why such an office has been found necessary and what will be the general scope of its work.

In every considerable civilised country there is now a special department which collects information as to wages and other working conditions and generally watches over the relations between the employers and employed.

In India during the last few years it has become more and more apparent that some organisation on the lines of the labour departments of the world is needed. There is a pressing need for full and accurate information about the actual wages paid at the present time and how these wages compare with those paid in previous years. In making this comparison one has to bear in mind that the purchasing ~~power~~ power of money has fallen; hence the necessity of getting exact information as to the course of prices and the cost of living generally. The need for authoritative information on these and similar points is felt by all. Existing statistics leave much to be desired. Figures given by employers are immediately ~~discontinued~~ discounted on the ground that they are not disinterested; counter statements by employees are open to the same - damaging criticism. Some impartial authority which, without bias in one direction or the other, will endeavour to ascertain the facts, would appear to be urgently necessary.

While the cost of such department is not productive in the sense that it earns interest yet, in countries where such an organisation exists, it is not usually regarded as a purely unproductive investment for it is pointed out that by helping to secure harmonious - relations between employers and employed it saves the parties immediately concerned, and the country generally a great deal of money that might otherwise be wasted in industrial disputes. It is not suggested that the setting up of the Bombay office will overcome all labour difficulties. It is not intended that it should arbitrarily intervene in all disputes between capital and labour; but it is felt that it will be an advantage to the parties concerned to have all the available facts

bearing

bearing on economic conditions readily accessible, and to have at the head of the new office a man to whom both employers and employed can look for advice and information and who can bring to bear on each question full knowledge and unbiassed judgment.

His Excellency the Governor being convinced, after his experience of disputes in Bombay of the need for such an office sought the assistance of the authorities at home in finding a man who could help to organise it. The Labour Department in the United Kingdom was started nearly thirty years ago and Mr. F.H. McLeod, C.B., who was largely concerned in organising that department, and afterwards served as the head of it, was accordingly appointed by the India Office to come out and give the Bombay Government the benefit of his advice and experience. He has now finished his part of the work and made plans which ensure to Bombay an efficient Labour Office.

The whole-time staff of the office will consist of a Director who will be responsible for its management, for the conduct of enquires and the preparation of reports. He will be assisted by investigator by statistical clerks and by typists.

In addition to this regular whole-time staff the active assistance of the various men and women now engaged in doing excellen social services of one kind or another, in Bombay and other parts of the Presidency, is being invited and many are already at work. These men and women will receive the title of honorary correspondents of the Labour office. Most of them will only be able to give part-time assistance and many of them would not wish to be paid even their expenses. Where, however, duties are assigned to a correspondent involving regular monthly or weekly returns or where, in connection with special investigations, they may be continuously employed for some weeks in such a way as to involve some out of pocket expenses it is proposed to offer suitable fees.

Thus it is hoped to establish a net-work of unofficial correspondents who will keep the office fully informed of labour matters in their respective districts much in the same way as a well conducted newspaper keeps in touch with outlying areas by local correspondents. All persons who can assist by their speicial knowledge will be invited to communicate with the department and if

their

their service will be enrolled on the list of honorary correspondents By establishing these friendly relations between the pureply official staff and those who are doing such good work outside in various directions, there is very little doubt that all parties will benefit.

It is not easy to delimit the functions of a labour office, for ultimately the workers, who constitute the great mass of the people, must be affected by nearly everything of importance that happens in the world and a competent head of labour office should therefore keep himself well informed on a great variety of subjects although, some of them, strictly speaking, be outside his personal work. Thus, he will not compile the statistics of the rainfall in India but he should take note of them as there is probably nothing which has such an enormous effect on the condition of the people of this country as the abundance or otherwise of the rainfall, -- Similarly, reports on irrigation, on the mortality rates, should be carefully studied. In short there is hardly any subject which is not related in some way to the work of a labour department in its widest aspect.

The immediate functions of the office may, however, be briefly grouped under four main heads as under:-

(1) Statistics: To obtain full and accurate information with regard to the conditions under which labour works e.g., wages, hours of labour, retail prices, rents and generally any facts which will throw light on the economic and social conditions of the workers. Statistics of strikes also fall into this group and should be so analysed as to bring out the real causes of unrest. Information as to any trade unions now existing will also be obtained. -- Reports setting forth the facts obtained as to wages, etc. will be prepared and published.

(2) Intelligence: Closely allied byt distinct in character is day-to-day information as to all labour movements and disputes. Information will be obtained from all available sources and it is hoped that in the

Case

case of disputes, for instance, both the employers and the leaders of the work-people concerned will furnish exact details. The newspapers, both in English and the vernacular, will be read and extracts bearing on all labour questions will be made and classified. The intelligence officer will also keep in touch with all these private institutions and persons who publish from time to time information bearing on the condition of the people of India.

Another kind of intelligence is contained in the numerous reports issued by the labour departments of other countries and it will be the duty of the new office to form a library of these and other books dealing with economic questions affecting the general position of labour throughout the World. A collection of labour laws will also be made.

(3) As experience and knowledge are gained and the activities of the labour office develop it is anticipated that it will be of the greatest utility to Government in the practical measures which it may find it expedient or desirable to undertake with a view to promote the settlement of Industrial disputes when they arise.

(4) Legislation and other measures: To advice the Government from time to time as regards necessary new legislation of the amendment of old laws. In this connection the facilities afforded by the department for obtaining full and accurate information on social economic and labour matters to this and other countries will be of the greatest assistance to private members of Governments whose duty it is to initiate legislation on social or industrial subjects.

G O V E R N M E N T / O F / A S S A M.

The Governor-in-Council.

Letter No.6383 F.M.
Finance Department.
Miscellaneous Branch,

From

G.T. Llyod, Esqr., I.C.S.,
Second Secretary to the Government of Assam.

To

The Resident in Mysore,
B A N G A L O R E.

Shillong, the 27th September 1926.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.7725, dated the 7th September 1926, and to say that no "Labour Department" or "Labour Commissioners" have yet been appointed under the orders of this Government.

The only report which this Government publish concerning labour is a "Report on immigrant labour in the province of Assam". But it is regretted that no spare copy of the same is available.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Sd/. x x x

for Second Secretary to the Govt. of Assam.

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" C O P Y "

2625 Gen 3389

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 18th ~~October~~ Novr. 1926.

Pol 531.

No. 9511 Encls. 2.
(1 Letter & 1 Administration Report).

GEN. E. F. Gen 1926 SECTION

1896-XVIII-633

JC 42-26-10.

A copy of the marginally* noted letter, with enclosure, is forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore. for information in continuation of memorandum from this office No. 9165 dated the 23rd October 1926.

*No. 2 dated the 20th October 1926, from the Deputy Secretary to Government, United Provinces.

Transferred to J&C Branch.

This previous papers have been transferred to the Dev Branch. This may also be transferred to Mail Branch. The copy of the Administration Report No. 5/11/26 referred to in the enclosure has not been received here.

J&C A.S.B. Dev. Br. 5/11/26

Yes Dev 5/11

for *Secretary to the Resident.*

P.O. 758. R. O. 25.—2,000.—2-10-1925.—R. P. B.

Letter No.1896/XVIII-633, dated the 20th October 1926 Industries Department from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of United Provinces to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

REPORTS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

With reference to your letter No.7721/74-1917, dated September 7, 1926, I am directed to say that there is no "Labour Department" in this province and hence no Labour Commissioner has been appointed.

2. This Government have, however, an Industries Department which deals with the development of industries including research and technical education and other industrial matters. The subject is a transferred one and is under the control of a Minister assisted by a Secretary and a Deputy Secretary. The Departmental head is known as the Director of Industries; he is assisted by two deputies and a Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers. A copy of the latest annual report of the Director of Industries is enclosed for the information of the Mysore Government. If reports of previous years are required, they can be had on payment from the Superintendent, Government Press, United Provinces, Allahabad.

"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR, RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

A.S.B.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 7th Decr. 1926

No. 10572 Encls. 5

74-1917

3466

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT
8 DEC. 1926
DEVELOPMENT BRANCH.

Pol. 672.

7 DEC. 1926

A copy of the marginally* noted letter, with enclosures, is forwarded with compliments, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore. for information, in continuation of Memorandum from this office No. 9511, dated the 1st November 1926.

Letter No. 7915 dated 24th November 1926 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Major.
Secretary to the Resident.

P. O. 758, R. O. 25.—2,000.—2-10-1925.—R. P. B.

Letter No. 7915-Com., dated the 24th November 1926, from The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, Commerce branch, Calcutta., to The Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

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Report of the Labour Department.

With reference to your letter No. 7720 74-1917 dated the 7th September 1926, on the above subject, I am directed to forward for the information of the Government of Mysore the enclosed copy of a Resolution by this Government No. 1163-Com., dated the 15th March 1922, regarding the constitution of the office of Labour Intelligence officer, Bengal, which has since the expiry of the temporary term of two years been placed on a permanent footing. The pay of the post of the Labour Intelligence Officer has been fixed, so long as it is held by a member of an All-India Service, at Rs.1600-50-1750 per mensem plus overseas pay at the rate of Rs.300/-, if drawn in rupees or £30/- if drawn in sterling with a motor-car allowance of Rs.150/- per mensem.

2. Regarding the functions of the Labour Intelligence Officer, I am to say that in addition to the duties under the terms of the Government Resolution referred to above the officer performs the work of a Deputy Secretary to this Government in the Commerce Department which includes the administration of several Labour Acts, such as the Factories Act, Workmen's Compensation Act., and the Indian Trade Unions Act. He also advises Government on all measures of a labour character administered by the Government of Bengal. The Functions exercised by the officer in his capacity of Labout Intelligence Officer are advisory and not executive.

3. In reply to the request contained in the last two lines of your Letter under reference, I am to say that no labour report is published separately in Bengal, but that a brief paragraph consolidating the information collected by the Labour Intelligence Officer regarding strikes and the activities of labour organisation is incorporated each year in the

No. 1163-Com.

Government of Bengal.

Commerce Department.

Commerce Branch.

Dated Calcutta, the 15th March 1922.

RESOLUTION.

As a result of the recommendations of the Indian Industrial Commission and in view of the complex labour situation which arose after the War, the Government of Bengal, after consultation with the Government of India, created, with effect from the 1st July 1920, a temporary post of Industrial Intelligence Officer. This officer's duty was in general to collect and make available for the public detailed information on matters connected with the development of industry, and in particular to investigate and report on Labour conditions and the facts and causes of labour disturbances. The term for which this post was created expired on the 28th February 1922. The attention of the Industrial Intelligence Officer during the last 18months has been occupied almost entirely with the wide-spread unrest in the labour world. India's international obligations as a member of the League of Nations, and in particular her active participation in the International Labour Conferences involve the systematic collection of information regarding her labour problems for supply, both to the International Labour Office itself and to the delegates of India to the Conferences. Moreover, it is the request of the Secretary of State that labour disturbances in India should be accurately and promptly reported to him for the information of Parliament. Further in paragraph 19 of their report, the Committee on Industrial Unrest appointed by this Government in 1921, laid great stress on the importance, if the Government was to maintain a proper watch over the industrial situation of its having full and early information about all forms of labour troubles. In view of these considerations which indicate the necessity for a separate organisation in Bengal to deal properly with labour matters and to keep Government informed regarding them, the Governor in Council has decided to create directly

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under this Government a post of Labour Intelligence Officer temporarily for two years in the first instance. Mr.R.N. Gilchrist of the Indian Educational Service has been appointed to this post with effect from the 6th March 1922.

2. The collection of industrial intelligence including information connected with the development of industries will, for the present, be undertaken by the Director of Industries, to whom all references connected with this subject should be addressed.

Order.-- Ordered that this resolution be published in the Calcutta Gazette for general information and copies forwarded to the officers concerned.

By order, etc.,

Sd/- H.E. Spry,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.
(Offg).

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"C O P Y"

X.-Factories and Labour Conditions.

Labour conditions.

The year 1923 was comparatively quiet so far as industrial disputes were concerned. Except for the Tramway strike, which broke out at the end of 1922 and continued till January of the year under review, ~~particularly~~ practically all the strikes occurring during the year were short-lived. About 30 per cent.of the strikes concerned jute mills and the rest were distributed over several other industries. In 19 cases the cause of dispute was the rate of pay, in one case the demand for bonus, in 14 cases it concerned discharge or dismissal and other disciplinary action taken by the employers, in 6 cases leave and hours of work and in 21 cases, miscellaneous reasons. About 16 per cent. of the strikes were completely successful in the sense that the concessions demanded were granted in full, about 3 per cent, were only partially successful while all the rest ended in the unconditional surrender of the strikers.

It has been pointed out elsewhere that the strike fever was highest when political agitation was at its greatest in 1921, and that the working classes were in many instances being definitely exploited for political purposes. The abatement of strikes may be ascribed, firstly, to the decadence of political agitation, secondly, the equilibrium which has been reached between the cost of living and wages, and thirdly, to the lesson which is being slowly learnt that strikes based on political issues cannot in the long run improve the lot of the workers. Indeed, one of the most striking features of the year's industrial disputes is the formulation of the lists of industrial grievances which are usually connected with wages or conditions of work and the relative absence of purely political issues.

The labour associations in the province, of which there is a considerable number, are reported to have made fair progress There were numerous conferences during the year, of which mention may be made of the Kanikara Labour Conference in March and the Railwaymen's Conference at Santahar in April, the Provincial Postal and R.M.S. Conference at Comilla in June and the All-India Postal and R.M.S. Conference in Calcutta at

at the end of October. Of these conferences a noticeable feature of the agenda was the exclusion of political resolutions and a general attempt to adhere to purely labour objects. A healthy sign is that a few of the labour associations are reported to have devoted themselves to perfecting their organisations. Towards the end of the years several of the local labour leaders were busy making arrangements for holding the All-India Trade Union Congress in Calcutta in pursuance of a resolution passed at the Conference held in Lahore in March 1922.

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"C O P Y"

X.-Factories and Labour Conditions.

Labour Conditions.

During the year ending 31st March 1924 there were in Bengal altogether 66 strikes, involving about 115,000 work-people, and an aggregate ~~to~~ economic loss of about 1,296,000 working days. Except three strikes in jute mills in the neighbourhood of Kankinara, which followed in the wake of the Kankinara Labour Conference held in March 1923, and were occasioned partly by disputes over non-economic issues, and a strike of masons in Calcutta, which caused considerable dislocation in building operations in the city in June 1923, almost all the strikes were of relatively short duration, and most of them were unimportant. About 50 per cent. of the strikes concerned jute mills. and the rest were spread in small numbers over various other industries and business concerns. In 25 disputes the demands of the men concerned pay, in 20 they were connected with discharge, dismissal and other disciplinary action, in 5 they related to leave or hours of work, while the remaining 16 disputes arose over miscellaneous demands. In only 17 per cent, of the strikes did the employees succeed in securing the concessions demanded, either in full or in part; in 8 per cent. of them resumption of work followed on promises of future consideration of the demands advanced, while the remaining 75 per cent. of the disputes resulted in the unconditional surrender of the strikers.

There was no marked advance in the growth of labour organisations in the Province from the time the report for the previous year was prepared, although sporadic attempts are stated to have been made by labour leaders to create new labour associations in different parts of Bengal. Of the events connected with the activities of labour Associations, the most noteworthy was the holding in Calcutta of the All-India Trade Union Congress which was held in March. The Indian Seamen's Union of Calcutta carried on active propaganda on the subject of seamen's recruitment. The two Calcutta organisations of postal employees-the Calcutta postal Club and the Calcutta Postal Employees' Association organised an intensive campaign throughout the Province with the object of preparing postal employees for a strike on the ground that the authorities had refused their-

Labour Conditions.

78. During the year ending 31 st March 1925, the number of industrial disputes accompanied by stoppages of work was 49, involving about 63,100 workmen and an aggregate economic loss of 336,400 working days. There were 17 fewer strikes than last year and a gratifying drop of about 75 per cent. in the number of lost working days. The strikes, which were all of short duration, occurred for the most part in jute and cotton mills, in engineering works and the conservancy staffs of municipalities. Almost half of the disputes arose out of questions of wages or bonus, about one-fifth were occasioned by discharge, dismissal, or disciplinary action against employees, while only two involved questions of leave and hours of work. About 55 per cent of the strikes ended in favour of the employers, in 16 per cent. work was resumed either as a result of compromise or pending negotiations, while in only about 29 per cent. were the men successful in gaining their demands either in whole or in part.

79. A noteworthy event of the year was the reconstitution by Government of the existing machinery for dealing with labour disputes affecting public utility services. The new Concilatic Panel was authorised to function for one year with effect from the 1st April, 1924.

80. Eleven new labour associations were created during the yea in various parts of the Province; but it does not necessarily follow that this has materially added to the number of workers included in the Trade Union movement. The increase in the number of organisations may be attributed to the policy of consulting representative labour bodies regarding the nomination of delegates to the International Labour Conference Of the events connected with the activities of Labour associations the most important were the Indian Seamen's Conference held in Calcutta in April and the Eastern Bengal Railway Indian Employees' Conference held at Mymensingh in May. At the former, resolutions were passed regarding facilities for finding employment and advocating reforms in the existing methods of recruitment-

recruitment of Seamen. The retrenchment measures adopted by the Bengal Nagpur Railway authorities continued to engage the attention of the Indian Labour Union at Kharagpur. Domestic quarrels led to the dissolution of the old executive of the Uriya Labour Union, Calcutta, and to the substitution in its place of an entirely new body of office-bearers. An endeavour was made by labour leaders in Bengal to form a Provincial Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress; but the Executive Council of the Congress ruled that the matter should be held in abeyance till the affiliation of a fair number of labour organisations in Bengal had been secured.

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"C O P Y"

REGISTRAR, RESIDENT'S OFFICE.